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NO 7262 TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1988 SHAWWAAL 16, 1408 AH 18 PAGES 150 FILLS

Junejo rejects charges of incompetence

Zia vows to take harsh action to end corruption

From Ashraf Shad in Islamabad

PRESIDENT Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said yesterday that he sacked the government of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo as it was guilty of incompetence and corruption which led to deterioration in all fields of Pakistani life.

Junejo denied the allegations. Zia promised to take harsh measures to end corruption, save the economy from bankruptcy, and impose a stricter Islamic government.

Addressing the nation on TV and radio yesterday evening, General Zia declared that general elections will be held in time according to the constitution and added the chief election commissioner has been asked to take necessary measures in this regard. But he did not set any election day.

Consultation

Neither did he name a cabinet as had been expected. He said a caretaker government would be formed within a few days.

Formation of a caretaker government was postponed for a few days for consultations to select a suitable man for the job.

There were speculations that either former Communications Minister Aslam Khattak or Nawaz Sharif would be picked up by Zia to head the caretaker government.



Zia: priorities

Ghulam Ishaque Khan, chairman of the senate is also a likely choice.

All the four Provincial Assemblies have also been dissolved along with the provincial cabinets. It was officially announced yesterday.

The governors of Punjab, Sind and North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) took the measure yesterday while the governor of Baluchistan province did so on Sunday night.

Zia in his speech said the dissolution of National and Provincial Assemblies were a part of the democratic process as he has neither imposed martial law nor enforced emergency.

Similarly, the constitution has not been suspended nor has it been abrogated. The press is free and there are no restrictions on political parties and their activities.

The government which ruled the country for more than three years was ineffective," Zia said.

Zia claimed that Junejo had to bribe supporters and lawmakers with various favours, leading to "unprecedented corruption at all levels" and failure to adopt proper policies.

Zia charged, that instead of self-reliance, Pakistan has been forced to depend increasingly on heavy domestic and external borrowing, as well as extensive deficit financing.

He strongly criticised Junejo's government for failing to control lawlessness, especially in Pakistan's biggest city, Karachi, and thus plunging the country into ethnic, regional and class conflicts and rioting.

Zia said he had warned Junejo's government against what was happening in the country but all his pleas were ignored.

He particularly expressed disappointment at little progress of Islamisation during more than three years of civil government.

Priorities

Zia put forth four priorities for the new government: Renewal of Islamisation process; inexpensive and easy justice; improvement of law and order and healthy economy.

"The law-and-order situation is so bad that people spend sleepless nights because of the fear of getting robbed, kidnapped or murdered," he said.

He said he would ask the government to be tough with criminals. Special judges will preside over speedy trials and will impose stiff punishment quickly.

AP adds: Although some politicians were cautiously optimistic about Zia's moves, Junejo was severely critical. He, his cabinet and the National Assembly had been scheduled to remain in office until 1990.

"The dissolution of the National Assembly by an action taken completely arbitrarily and solely on his own," Junejo told a news conference. "The action is against the fundamentals of the democratic process which commenced with the holding of the 1985 elections."

That balloting was on a referendum on Islamisation of the country, and Zia took approval of the measure as backing for a five-year term as President. He announced recently he might step down as Army chief of staff in 1990 but that he planned to run again for President.

Junejo said the president should have consulted the prime minister before dissolving the National Assembly and the cabinet. "The action was constitutional but arbitrary," he added.

Win

Junejo said his government had adopted policies which were in the national interest and had done nothing wrong.

Junejo said if Zia kept his promise to hold fresh elections for the National Assembly within 90 days, as provided in the constitution, "we will win the polls with a big majority."

Zia promised elections "on a political basis," indicating that opposition parties may be allowed to participate for the first time since he seized power in a bloodless 1977 coup.

(Continued on Page 2)

Beirut car bomb kills 20, injures 83

BEIRUT, May 30, (Agencies): A powerful car bomb exploded near an office of the main Christian Phalange Party today and killed at least 20 people and injured more than 80, security and hospital sources said.

They said a man parked the blue Volvo car packed with an estimated 100 kg (220 pounds) of TNT in the Rmeil area of the central district of Ashrafieh in East Beirut at 1030 am (0830 GMT).

He fled immediately after leaving the car near a butcher's shop in the mixed residential and business neighbourhood, they said.

Destruction

The ensuing blast brought bloodshed and destruction to the narrow streets of Ashrafieh, which sits on a hilltop bordering the green line between East and West Beirut.

Ambulances rushed casualties to hospital as black smoke billowed from the area and firemen battled to contain flames in cars and buildings.

The explosion, the second most destructive in Lebanon this year, wrecked four apartment blocks and badly damaged another eight, witnesses said. It gouged a crater two metres (six feet) wide and 60 centimetres (two feet) deep in the road.

A photographer reported from the scene: "Charred corpses with limbs ripped off by the force of the explosion lay everywhere in pools of blood."

He said streets were littered with the mangled, scorched remains of about 20 cars, uprooted lamp posts, telephone cables and shattered glass.

Warning

Police said the booby-trapped car exploded about 100 metres from the second largest office of the Phalange Party and near the home of Joseph Al Hashem, Lebanon's Minister of Health, Social Welfare, Posts and Communications.

Neither building was damaged and no one has yet claimed responsibility for the blast.

Analysis said it could have been a warning to Hashem, who called yesterday for the Lebanese

Army to take charge of security in East Beirut, ousting the 8,000-strong hardline Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia.

Scores of frantic militiamen and security men firing machine-guns burst in the air rushed to the scene and cordoned off the area, witnesses said.

Terrified residents searched for missing relatives and friends as rescuers used window shutters sent flying by the blast to move victims, many of them women shoppers.

Hospital sources said most of the bodies of the dead were badly charred, making identification difficult. They estimated that 83 people were wounded.

Hysterical

"I was in my shop when the explosion happened. I saw a flash of light, heard a loud bang and suddenly was thrown to the other side of the shop," the butcher said.

Witnesses reported hysterical scenes at the Greek Orthodox St George's Hospital, where most of the casualties were taken.

"Relatives paced the corridors in search of the missing. Now and then the wailing cries of women broke the silence as they identified one of the dead," one woman said.

Analysis said Hashem's call reflected the view of Syria, Lebanon's main external power broker, that the Lebanese Army should take over in East Beirut.

Repair

Damascus sent more than 4,000 troops into Beirut's southern suburbs at the weekend to silence the guns of the Muslim fundamentalist Hezbollah militia after three weeks of bloody battles with the pro-Syrian Amal which killed more than 400 people.

In the war-battered southern suburbs, engineers began a major repair operation on destroyed power cables, telephone lines and water pipes.

Syrian soldiers mined checkpoints, searched cars and checked the identity cards of drivers and passengers by after setting in behind newly-built sand-bag barricades.

Opec should stick to quota: King Fahd

JEDDAH, May 30, (AP): King Fahd today reiterated that members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries should stick to the organisation's quotas and prices to help stabilise the world oil market.

"If intentions be pure, and all member states abide by the Opec rulings with respect to quotas, production ceiling and the defined prices, this will be in the interest of all oil producing and consuming states alike," Fahd was quoted as saying at the cabinet's weekly session in this Saudi Red Sea port city.

The statement was communicated by Information Minister, Ali Al-Sherar, to the official Saudi Press Agency following the session where he said a comprehensive report on the world oil situation since the last Opec meeting was presented by Oil Minister, Hisham Nazer.

Fahd had expressed the same view ahead of the consultative session which Opec ministers held in Vienna in April to discuss means of propping up the flagging oil prices around an \$18 benchmark.

Six non-Opec oil producers had earlier proposed a five per cent cut in output by oil producers inside and outside the organisation and the demand had been backed by Iran. But it was rejected by Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries within Opec and the meeting ended inconclusively.

The issue will be taken up again when the organisation convenes its semi-annual regular meeting, which is fixed for June 8 in Vienna.

Hypnotic dollar

ABU DHABI, May 30, (Reuters): A thief in the United Arab Emirates has found the dollar has hypnotic powers despite its present weakness.

Al Itihad newspaper quoted an unidentified victim as telling police "I showed him (the thief) some notes and he produced his \$100 and started moving it close to my eyes."

"I felt drowsy and before I could open my eyes the driver and my money (the equivalent of \$1,600) were gone," he added.

Heat wave kills 100 in India

NEW DELHI, May 30, (AP): At least 100 people died of sunstroke in northern and central India over the weekend as the region sweltered under what weather forecasters call the worst heat wave in 20 years, Indian news agencies reported today.

Press Trust of India said 200 people were admitted to hospitals across the country after suffering sunstroke today.

The deaths were reported from the states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The Indian capital of New Delhi reported four deaths, PTI said.

Temperatures have risen to 48 degrees Celsius (118.4 Fahrenheit) in some towns, which is at least five degrees Celsius (nine degrees Fahrenheit) above the average temperature.



A man screams for help as mutilated bodies of victims lie on the ground after the bomb blast in Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

Saudis seen opposed to Iranian representation

ANKARA, May 30, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia, which cut diplomatic relations with Iran in April, does not apparently want Iranian interests to be represented in the kingdom, a Turkish Foreign Ministry official said today.

Ministry spokesman, Inal Batu, said Saudi Arabia had not replied to Turkey's offer to look after Iran's interests in Riyadh and had not approached any country to protect its interests in Tehran.

"The Saudis apparently do not want Iranian interests in Riyadh and vice-versa," Batu said.

Request

The ministry said on May 6 that Turkey had accepted an Iranian request to look after its interest in Saudi Arabia and was awaiting Saudi approval.

Saudi Arabia cut ties with Iran because of what it called hostile practices, including the ransacking of the Saudi embassy in Tehran and killing of a diplomat after violence between Iranian pilgrims and Saudi security force in the holy Muslim city of Mecca last July.

Soviets quit Panjsher Valley

ISLAMABAD, May 30, (Reuters): Soviet and Afghan troops have completely evacuated the strategic Panjsher Valley, which sits on the main road of Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, Afghan guerrillas said today.

Summit moves forward on arms issues Reagan stresses human rights

MOSCOW, May 30, (AP): President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev moved forward on summit arms issues today in a session that was eclipsed by Reagan's meeting with dissidents and his challenge that the Soviet leader usher in "a new age of religious freedom."

"It's time my friend, it's time," the President implored the general secretary, quoting the pre-revolutionary Russian writer Pushkin as he sounded the human rights theme in Moscow for the second day.

Later, in an extraordinary meeting with several dozen dissidents at the US embassy guesthouse, Reagan said: "I came here hoping to do what I could, to give you strength."

Message

"But I already know it is you who have strengthened me. You have given me a message to carry back: while we press for human rights through diplomatic channels, you press with your very lives, day in, day out, year after year, risking your jobs, your homes, your all."

He said the United States "views human rights as fundamental, absolutely fundamental, to our relations with the Soviet Union and all nations."

Reagan's tone was moderate but the symbolism of his meetings spoke volumes. That he was stepping into domestic matters on Soviet soil rankled Gorbachev, but at a state dinner in the Kremlin the leaders were affable and animated.

The summit session today focused on arms issues. Spokes-

men said the leaders were likely to sign two secondary agreements and were making progress on a far more significant strategic arms accord.

No one was predicting a breakthrough in the negotiations on a Start (Strategic Arms Reduction Talks) treaty for halving the superpowers' long-range missile arsenals, but there was movement in two of the most stubborn areas — involving mobile missiles and cruise missiles launched from warplanes.

Disagreement

However, the President's space-based defence initiative, known as Star Wars, remains under Soviet challenge and the US still refuses to permit Soviet inspection of US ships armed with cruise missiles.

The arms discussions preceded the President's two human rights events.

Even before the first event — Reagan's visit to the Danilov Monastery — Gorbachev indicated his disagreement with Reagan's appraisal of Soviet deficiencies.

Before the dissidents, the

President praised the recent surge in Jewish emigration and the release of 300 political prisoners in the three years since Gorbachev took the Kremlin helm.

Afterward, Gennady Gerasimov, the Soviet spokesman, described the dissidents as "not the best of the Soviet people, rather the contrary."

In the past, Gorbachev and other Soviet officials have registered their irritation with Americans lecturing them about their internal practices. But Reagan committed the US to the freedom movement here.

In a speech later, Gorbachev said the two countries should deal with each other "without sermonising or imposing one's views and ways, without turning family or personal problems into a pretext for confrontation between states."

"Our programme calls for greater democracy and openness, for greater social justice in conditions of prosperity and high morality. Our aim is to give maximum freedom for people,

(Continued on Page 2)

Nine-month-old Palestinian girl loses an eye Protests held to draw summit attention

DHEISHEH, West Bank, May 30, (Reuters): A nine-month-old Arab girl lost an eye and more than 20 other Palestinians were wounded today when Israeli troops broke up demonstrations and strikes in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinians had called for the protests hoping to draw the attention of US and Soviet leaders during their Moscow summit.

Talks

The girl from Jabalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip lost her left eye and had three bones broken when she was hit by rubber bullets fired by Israeli soldiers dispersing demonstrators in the camp, hospital sources said.

They said the girl's 29-year-old mother was hit in the arm with rubber bullets in the same incident, and a total of 17 people were treated for various injuries after the clash.

Security sources said Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin met a group of Palestinian leaders today in an attempt to persuade them to meet US Secretary of State George Shultz when he visits the area at the end of the week.

Rabin met another group of Palestinians from Nablus yesterday.

The security sources said the Palestinians asked Rabin to lift some of the restrictions Israel had imposed on residents of the occupied areas and Rabin told them he would check their requests.

Demonstrations erupted in Dheisheh and other parts of the occupied West Bank, while shops in Arab East Jerusalem and the West Bank were closed by a strike. Palestinians said the actions were meant to draw the attention of President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meeting in Moscow.

Sikh leaders sack all five high priests

CHANDIGARH, India, May 30, (Reuters): Sikh religious leaders suddenly sacked all five high priests of the faith today, accusing them of collusion with the Indian government, official sources said.

They said the five included the seniormost Sikh priest, the head priest of the Akal Takht — the eternal throne of the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikh's holiest shrine — who exercises spiritual and temporal authority over all Sikhs.

The priests had been named earlier this year by Sikh militants fighting for a separate homeland and the religious leaders, members of a committee administering Sikh temples, were told by the separatists to ratify the appointments.

Official sources in the Punjab state capital, Chandigarh, said Harcharan Singh Delhi was

named the new head priest to replace Jasbir Singh Rode, who along with three other high priests was jailed on May 11.

The priests were arrested for attempting to march to the Golden Temple then besieged by paramilitary forces fighting militants holed up inside the shrine.

The 10-day siege was lifted on May 18. About 150 militants surrendered to the security forces which included elite paramilitary commandos.

Besides Rode, those fired were Swinder Singh, leader of the Keshgarh Sahib Shrine in Punjab; Kashmir Singh, head priest of the Akal Takht, which is the complex housing the Golden Temple; Pura Singh, head priest of the Golden Temple and Jaswant Singh, head of the Damsaha Sahib Shrine, also in Punjab.

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آن کے اردو صفحات میں

- صدر فیاض عبوری حکومت
- کاغذان چند روزہ میں کریں گے
- فیاض نے من مانی کر کے
- جمہوری عمل روک دیا بھونچو
- پاکستان کا نیا وزیر اعظم
- کون ہو گا؟
- پاکستان کے حالیہ واقعات
- پرچین الاقوامی تیرے
- کراچی میں فوجی قیادت کر
- دی گئی
- پاکستان کی چاروں صوبائی
- اسمبلیاں اور وزارتیں توڑ دی
- سب

WEATHER

HOT summer weather with a light north-easterly wind changing to light to moderate south-easterly.
State of sea: slight
High water: 11:00 am
Low water: 5:00 am, 6:00 pm
Sunrise: 4:49 am
Sunset: 6:42 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kusay: 42°C (108°F)
Samarqand: 40°C (104°F)
Falkland: 30°C (86°F)
Minimum temperature recorded:
Kusay: 26°C (79°F)
Samarqand: 22°C (72°F)
Falkland: 20°C (68°F)
Maximum temperature expected:
Kusay: 42°C (108°F)
Samarqand: 41°C (106°F)
Falkland: 30°C (86°F)
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kusay: 51 per cent
Samarqand: 35 per cent
Falkland: 39 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kusay: 55 per cent
Samarqand: 39 per cent
Falkland: 42 per cent

ARAB TIMES Grand Bingo

Both the Second and Third Full House prizes have been won. Mr. Abdul Nazeer will receive KD 60 for the Second and Mrs. Licy Varghese KD 40 for the Third Full House. The answer to the clue is 1.

Special session on disarmament

World leaders to gather at UN

UNITED NATIONS, May 30. (Reuters): A special General Assembly session on disarmament opening here on Tuesday is attracting an impressive cast of world leaders despite only modest expectations.

Scheduled speakers during the opening phase of the four-week session include Afghan leader Najibullah, President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and President Raul Alfonsín of Argentina.

More than two dozen heads of state or government and scores of foreign ministers will address the 159-nation assembly.

Principles
Most big powers will be represented by their foreign ministers, but it has not yet been confirmed that Secretary of State George Shultz will deliver the main US speech.

This is the third special assembly session focusing entirely on efforts to curb the global arms race, which costs more than \$800

billion a year according to UN estimates.

The first, in 1978, was widely praised, especially by Third World countries, for producing a lengthy final document setting out ambitious goals and principles to guide future negotiations.

The second session, held in 1982 when East-West détente had evaporated, was a disappointment. It broke little fresh ground but reaffirmed the 1978 document and launched a worldwide disarmament campaign.

UN officials stress the third special session on disarmament is not a negotiating forum for drafting specific treaties. That is a function of the Geneva conference on disarmament and other bodies.

The start of the assembly will be overshadowed by the Moscow meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and its aftermath.

But the UN hopes the assembly will produce an outline for

future multilateral accords.

"My impression is that, overwhelmingly, delegates expect the session to be low-key — a sober reappraisal, with some fine-tuning," one Western ambassador said.

Hopes have been raised by improved US-Soviet relations and the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) agreement signed by Reagan and Gorbachev last December.

Apart from being the first accord to scrap some of the world's 50,000 nuclear warheads — about 5 per cent — it incorporates tough verification measures that might be emulated elsewhere.

Many experts, including Under Secretary General Yasushi Akashi, who heads the UN department of disarmament affairs, say there now appears to be a willingness to pay more attention to conventional arms and chemical weapons.

The Iran-Iraq war and other conflicts have spotlighted the

huge non-nuclear arsenals amassed by regional powers.

Cities have been struck by long-range missiles in the Gulf fighting and longstanding taboos against the use of gas have been violated, raising the danger that chemical weapons could become the "poor man's nuclear weapons" of the future.

New treaty
Western countries are expected to press for prompt completion at the Geneva disarmament conference of a new treaty plugging loopholes in a 1925 agreement intended to outlaw chemical warfare.

Most of the work of the special session will be done in a committee comprising representatives of all UN member states except South Africa — suspended since 1974 — and in three smaller working groups.

The objective will be to produce a final document setting a course for the future that can win the endorsement of the assembly plenary.

First computer wedding in US

MOUNT VERNON, New York, May 30. (UPI): Two computer hackers sanctified their electronic romance on Saturday, exchanging wedding vows with a long-distance ceremony attended "electronically" by friends as far away as France and Australia.

"It was a little different because we didn't talk," Roseanne Detrafford said after exchanging vows with Joe Malacria in what is believed to be the first wedding conducted over a computer bulletin board.

"Normally when you get married you talk. We didn't. But I'm just as married as if we did, even though I kept making typing errors," she said.

"It was a lot of fun, but to be honest, I wouldn't do it again," she said. "I'd just elope."

From his computer terminal in New York City, the Rev. Marc Mauss queried the couple over a telephone connection, his words appearing on a large video monitor in the Mount Vernon, N.Y., offices of the executive network as he typed.

"And now if you, Joe Malacria and Roseanne Detrafford, have at present logged in for the purpose of being joined in legal wedlock, please signify by typing 'yes,'" the preacher instructed.

"Joe?"
"Yes," he typed, stealing a glance at his wife-to-be.

"Rose?"
"Yes."

Two "I do's" and a brief benediction later, two words flashed across the screen — "throw rice" — and then, "you may kiss the bride."

Dukakis, Jackson focus on New Jersey

NEW YORK, May 30. (AP): Democratic presidential front-runner Michael Dukakis wooed New Jersey environmentalists during the US Memorial Day holiday while Republican George Bush met with advisers to map out his November strategy.

Jesse Jackson, pressing on with his bid for the Democratic Party nomination despite increasingly dismal odds, continued his attacks on Sunday on the drug policies of the administration of President Ronald Reagan.

With the four remaining primary elections just over a week away, the two Democrats spent their weekend campaigning in New Jersey, which has 109 delegates at stake. All told, 466 delegates are up for grabs on June 7 in California, New Mexico, Montana and New Jersey.

Dukakis is within striking distance of the 2,081 needed to nominate with 1,711 delegates. Jackson has 984 delegates.

Dukakis, who leads Jackson in

recent New Jersey opinion polls, took a boat cruise with environmentalists and attended three private receptions.

Dukakis inspected polluted waters off Asbury Park, New Jersey, saying: "It's pretty disgusting."

Clean up
He promised to work aggressively to direct environmental clean up programmes, but acknowledged that his own state's efforts to clean up dirty Boston harbour had got off to a slow start.

While the candidate campaigned in New Jersey, the British Broadcasting Corporation televised a taped interview with Dukakis in which the Massachusetts Governor said the Soviet Union's economic problems led Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev to have another summit with President Ronald Reagan.

Dukakis said Gorbachev is probably the first Soviet leader to recognise the communism is a failure, at least the way it's been practiced in the Soviet Union.

Former Sierra Leone president dies

BANJUL, The Gambia, May 30. (Reuters): Former Sierra Leone President Siaka Stevens, who ruled his West African country for 14 years, died on Sunday after a long illness. Radio Freetown reported.

The radio, monitored in the Gambia's capital of Banjul, said Stevens died at his residence in Freetown.

Stevens had been seriously ill for nearly a month and lapsed into a coma last week. He suffered a stroke in December 1987 which paralysed the right side of

his body.
The former president, who transformed his diamond-rich country into a socialist one-party state, handed over power to Major-General Joseph Momoh, his designated successor, at the 1985 congress of his All Peoples' Congress party (APC).

Stevens survived a number of assassination attempts while President and was briefly detained and put under house arrest during an abortive coup against Momoh in March 1987.

Zia promises harsh action

(Continued from Page 1)

Junejo said his Muslim League Party, which had been the governing party until Sunday, will win more assembly seats than before on the basis of "our record of democracy and public service."

Benazir Bhutto, leader of the opposition Pakistan People's Party, said from her Karachi headquarters that she welcomed Zia's move but still had doubts.

"(We will) wait and see if Zia keeps his word," she said.

Her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was the prime minister whom Zia toppled. Bhutto was hanged in 1979 on a murder conspiracy conviction.

Zia said there would be no change in foreign policy, but also reported he would improve relations with the Soviet Union and India.

"Our present relations with the United States, China, and the Islamic countries are the cornerstone of our foreign policy, and we will continue this policy," he said.

Zia said relations with neighbouring India would be normalised and that tensions arising from three wars in 40 years would be removed.

Budget

Zia's announcement came less than two weeks before the National Assembly planned to debate a new budget in which Zia is expected to request substantial increases in military spending.

Observers told the Arab Times that Dr Mahbubul Haq, who was Planning and Development minister in the Junejo government, was certain to be included in the proposed caretaker government. Dr Haq, a technocrat, was considered a suitable person to help lead the country of economic ailments. If taken back in the new government, he would be the one to announce the budget.

Military troops were reported to be on alert and patrolling sensitive areas in Islamabad and Karachi. Armed guards have been placed at residences of former ministers and important installations of the government, especially financial institutions.

Reagan stresses human rights

(Continued from Page 1)

for the individual, for society," he told Reagan at a Kremlin dinner.

Gerassimov did not belabour the human rights issue. His briefing on the day's activities centred in large part on developments in arms discussions. He said the leaders would likely execute two arms control agreements.

Gerassimov reported "certain progress" on monitoring cruise missiles carried by warplanes and said "a compromise is possible." At the same time, the Soviet official said the two sides had decided mobile missiles could be stored in designated areas in order to keep track of the elusive weapons.

Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said there was "significant disagreement" between the leaders on the size of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and Warsaw Pact ground forces in Europe.

Arms
Gerassimov rejected US claims that Moscow supplies Iraq and Iran, at war for the past eight years, with arms, reiterating that his country wants an immediate end to the war.

The Soviet rebuttal was in response to a statement made by Reagan to a Soviet magazine.

Gerassimov denied that his country had furnished arms to Tehran.

After his one hour and 45 minute meeting in the Kremlin with Gorbachev, Reagan visited the Danilov Monastery on the edge of Moscow where he was greeted by bearded monks and the rare pealing of Russian church bells.

Police broke up a street protest today by about 25 Soviet Jews seeking permission to leave the country.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Reform or quit'

BELGRADE, May 30. (Reuters): The Communist Party chief of Yugoslavia's biggest republic told party leaders at a crisis conference today to implement sweeping reforms by autumn or face dismissal.

Aquino killing

MANILA, May 30. (UPI): A witness testified today she saw a soldier shoot the husband of President Corason Aquino on an airline staircase, disputing military claims that the 1983 assassination was carried out by a communist hit man.

Kurd shot dead

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey, May 30. (Reuters): A Kurdish guerrilla was shot dead and another captured by Turkish security forces last night in a clash near the Turkey-Syrian border, security sources said today.

Woman dies in Texas melee

WASHINGTON, May 30. (UPI): A memorial weekend festival in Texas, a rowdy college party in California and a drag race in Utah erupted into rock-and-bottle-throwing melees and brawls that left a woman dead, at least a dozen people injured and more than 30 jailed.

In the Houston suburb of Pasadena, two men were stabbed and a woman was shot last night in a series of free-for-all involving people leaving a memorial weekend festival.

The 24-year-old woman died a short time later of a shotgun wound to the chest. The two men were listed in serious condition, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Police spokesman Mike Gibson said drinking apparently was involved in the fights, in which people battled with tire irons and boards as the holiday crowd left the fairgrounds.

He said four suspects were arrested in the shooting and stabbings and seven other people were jailed in connection with an unrelated fight Sunday evening at the Pasadena fairgrounds, where a rock concert had been held.

Nationalists lead in Spain's regional parliament polls

BARCELONA, May 30. (AP): The moderate Nationalist Coalition Convergence Union retained its majority in the 135-seat Catalan regional parliament in Sunday's elections in this northeastern Spanish autonomous region.

With the 98.4 per cent of the vote tallied today, official figures indicated the CIU obtained 45.8 per cent of the vote to win 69 seats, one more than the minimum necessary to govern alone.

The Catalan branch of the Nationwide Spanish Socialist Party (PSC) obtained 29.6 per cent to win 42 seats, one more than in previous elections.

The communist-oriented coalition Catalanian Initiative (IC) obtained 7.7 per cent of the vote and nine seats, three more than 1984. The conservative Popular Alliance fell to 5.3 per cent and six seats from their previous 11 seats.

The Republican left party obtained 4.1 per cent of the votes and six seats in the Catalanian

parliament.
The centrist Democratic Social Centre (CDS) of former Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez, running for the first time in Catalan elections, obtained 3.8 per cent of the vote and won three seats.

Before the election, the socialist PSC controlled the national parliament in Madrid and held majorities or governed through coalitions in 10 of Spain's 17 regional parliaments.

The campaign, characterised in the local and national press as "boring," revolved less on substantive issues than around the personalities of 57-year-old Jordi Pujol, head of the winning CIU party, and his 47-year-old socialist rival, Raimon Obiols.

Since 1980 Pujol has emerged as a moderate Catalan nationalist who jousts periodically with the central government in Madrid for greater regional autonomy, guaranteed to all 17 regions by Spain's 1978 constitution.

Like the other regions, Catalonia depends on revenues collected by Madrid for its budget.

The Catalan language is spoken by about six million people in eastern Spain and it is the dual official language of the autonomous region together with Spanish.

Since Spain returned to democracy in 1977, Catalonians have tended to vote left in national elections and centre or right in their own regional polls.

Nobel prize winner dead

BERLIN, May 30. (AP): A West German professor who shared the 1986 Nobel Prize in physics for developing the electron microscope, died in West Berlin, his university said today. He was 81.

Ruska died on Friday after a short illness, West Berlin's technical university said. It gave no other details.

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Arafat to seek rejection of US Mideast peace plan

TUNIS, May 30, (Reuters): PLO leader Yasser Arafat will be seeking a clear rejection of the American peace plan for the Middle East at an Arab emergency summit due on June 7 in Algiers.

Arafat's objection to the US proposal is a main clause of a PLO document to be presented in Algiers at the second Arab summit in seven months, PLO officials said.

The Palestine Liberation Organization chief sees the plan as an attempt to extinguish the almost six-month Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories which has earned Israel worldwide condemnation for its handling of the crisis. He also considers that Palestinian demands for statehood have been ignored.

The PLO wants the spotlight to be firmly fixed on the uprising, the main reason why the summit was called, the officials said.

As key Arab states have so far failed to take a clear stand on the plan, which US Secretary of State George Shultz will be pushing again in a carefully-timed Middle East tour this week, the PLO is likely to be under pressure from fellow Arabs to tone down its criticism of US policy, diplomats said.

Assistance

The PLO document also includes a strong demand for the provision of cash for the uprising in which about 190 Palestinians have died.

PLO officials have criticised what they regard as negligible Arab contributions to an uprising fund set up in January and said their document establishes how regular and specific payments should be made.

It also calls for a UN-sponsored Middle East peace conference, differing in key aspects from the UN plan.

In particular is the insistence that the PLO take part in any conference as an independent body or as an equal member of a delegation of Arab states.

Meanwhile, Arafat arrived in Libya on Sunday, the official Libyan news agency Jana said today.

Jana gave no further details on Arafat's visit, his second since the Palestinian chief met Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi on April 19, for reconciliation talks after a six-year rift.



● A Vietnamese refugee boy seems content to play with his toy machine-gun, undisturbed by the presence of British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, who was visiting Chi Ma Wan refugee camp in Hong Kong. (Reuters wirephoto)

Iran 'keen' to end hostage crisis

ABU DHABI, May 30, (UPI): Iran is holding secret talks with the United States and other Western countries to end the issue of the hostages held in Lebanon, a newspaper reported today.

"Tehran is keen on ending the hostages issue in a way that would serve the aim of their captivity," a Lebanese official quoted Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, Ali Mohammed Besharati, as saying.

The remarks were published today in the Abu Dhabi-based Arabic daily Al Itihad.

Besharati said Iran was conducting secret intensive contacts with Western countries, especially the United States, to "end the hostages issue."

The report came as US Assistant Secretary of State, John Whitehead, was reported to have met recently with an Iranian delegation in Algiers to discuss the hostages issue.

US envoy to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, also held long talks with Syrian

leaders last week which focused on the fate of 16 Western hostages, including nine Americans, still held in Beirut.

Syria has deployed troops to the southern suburbs of Beirut after an agreement with pro-Iranian Hezbollah fighters. Most of the hostages are believed to be held in the Lebanese capital's southern slums.

Beirut's leftist As Safir daily also said that three American professors and an Indian educator kidnapped in West Beirut 16 months ago may be freed soon.

It cited unnamed sources close to President Amin Gemayel for its brief report, which linked the release to the deployment of Syrian troops in Beirut's southern slums to end three weeks of fighting between Shiite factions.

The newspaper gave no other details.

The four academicians were abducted on Jan 24 last year from the campus of the US-affiliated Beirut university college by gunmen posing as policemen.

American flag burned in Seoul

Police break up anti-US rally

SEOUL, May 30, (AP): Thousands of radical students yelling "Yankee go home" marched through the city today and burned an American flag before police broke up the protest with tear gas.

Armoured fans fired multiple tear gas launchers as hundreds of police in green combat fatigues and visored helmets charged protesters in front of Seoul railway station after the giant flag was set ablaze.

"Drive out the Yankee imperialists," protesters screamed as they applauded the burning flag and tossed firebombs at it to fuel the blaze.

A handful of students hurled firebombs at the attacking police, but most protesters and hundreds of terrified commuters and onlookers ran for cover as police chased them.

Police seized some protesters and dragged them away, but police officials declined to give any arrest figures. Officers tossed tear gas grenades at bystanders who complained about the police attack.

The protest began when about 10,000 protesters gathered in front of the station in the city's centre after marching across Seoul with a coffin bearing the body of a student who set himself on fire in an anti-government protest. Police did not intervene during the peaceful six-kilometre march.

Choi Duk-soo died when he set himself on fire on May 18 to protest the holding of a student spring festival on the anniversary of the 1980 anti-government uprising in the southern city of Kwangju.

Crackdown

His death was the second political suicide this month. Cho Sung-man stabbed himself and jumped off a building on May 15. Such suicides are a traditional form of protest to shame the government.

The students, who started rioting two weeks ago, are calling for the overthrow of President Roh Tae-woo and the removal of the 42,000 US troops based in South Korea.

Roh, a former general who took power in February after winning elections late last year, ordered a crackdown on Friday to halt protests. Roh said the radicals were becoming a threat

to the Olympic Games to be held in Seoul in September.

Today's march, like other recent protests in which US diplomatic offices were attacked, was vehemently anti-American. Radicals claim the United States enforces military rule in South Korea and partition of the Korean peninsula.

Speakers also claimed Roh and the United States were responsible for the bloody suppression of the Kwangju uprising, in which at least 191 people were killed.

President Roh committed himself to ushering in a new era of democracy when South Korea's opposition-controlled parliament opened today calling on lawmakers to end political confrontation.

Opposition

"Gone are the days when, on the strength of its numerical superiority, the government party can get away with arbitrarily running the legislature and forcing anything through it and when blind opposition and struggle by the minority party can be justified," Roh told a new 299-member

national assembly.

The President described the government's shock general election failure last month as an occasion to give parliament a face-lift.

Roh's Democratic Justice Party (DJP) will still be the largest single group in the chamber with 125 seats but it falls 25 short of an overall majority.

The government's loss of its parliamentary powerbase for the first time in modern South Korean history was the direct result of weeks of nationwide street protests last year which forced the government to embrace opposition demands for electoral reforms.

"Politics in this new era must be the politics of reconciliation, the mission of politicians, I believe, is to heal wounds, resolve confrontations and unite the people, rather than to rub salt into their wounds and deepen hatred," he said.

The parliament was to have been sworn in last week, but the reluctance of the DJP to form special committees to probe alleged abuses of power by former President Chun held up the inauguration for a week.

Violence

The Indian minister is expected to raise with Sri Lankan authorities Tamil requests for the devolution of more power to provincial councils.

The setting up of semi-autonomous councils for the island's nine provinces was a key element in a peace accord signed last July by Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

aimed at ending a Tamil rebellion.

Pant will also meet several senior cabinet ministers to discuss special problems affecting Muslims and people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka during his three-day stay, the officials said.

Pant will also discuss preparations for provincial council elections in the troubled north and east, where Indian troops are fighting Tamil separatists, they said.

An estimated 70,000 Indian troops have been deployed in the north and east to hunt down and disarm Tamil guerrillas who have repudiated the peace pact.

In the Sinhalese-dominated areas of the south, Sri Lankan security forces are trying to quell a violent campaign by the Marxist People's Liberation Front (JVP) which is also opposed to

the accord.

In an apparent attempt to break the spirit of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrillas before Pant's talks, Indian troops last week smashed a rebel base at Alampai in the north.

Thousands of white-clad men, women and children attended temples on Monday to mark the week of Buddha's birthday 2,532 years ago and prayed for peace on the island which has suffered from ethnic violence for the past six years.

Political sources said that if Indian troops could restore peace in the north and east early and begin withdrawing, that would enable Jayewardene to call a general election towards the end of the year. Such an election is not due until July 1989.

A thinning out of Indian soldiers would also strengthen Jayewardene's hand in dealing with the JVP in the south, they said.

Withdrawal

The JVP has threatened to disrupt provincial council elections in the central and western provinces on Thursday and in the southernmost province on June 9.

He said senior officials of the two countries would meet next month in the hill tracts town of Ramgarh to discuss rehabilitation of the refugees, mostly Chakma tribesmen who fled into India to escape a guerrilla revolt.

The guerrillas, called the "shanti bahini" began a violent campaign in 1973 for autonomy in the Chittagong hill tracts.

He said two rivers in the south-east, the Kushiara and the Surma, were about a metre above their "danger" levels. Many houses were under two or three metres of water.

Swelling floods cut rail and road links with some of the stricken areas.

Agriculture officials said nearly 100,000 acres (40,000 hectares) of rice fields were under water, mostly in the east.

Dhaka weather office said more rains expected in the coming weeks could set off an early monsoon and cause flooding all over the country.

In a separate development, India and Bangladesh will make a fresh bid to repatriate thousands of tribal refugees to their homes in southern Bangladesh from camps across the border.

Foreign Secretary Nazrul Islam said today.

He said senior officials of the two countries would meet next month in the hill tracts town of Ramgarh to discuss rehabilitation of the refugees, mostly Chakma tribesmen who fled into India to escape a guerrilla revolt.

The guerrillas, called the "shanti bahini" began a violent campaign in 1973 for autonomy in the Chittagong hill tracts.

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Ferry runs aground

ZAMBOANGA, CITY, May 30, (AP): A ferry boat carrying 172 passengers and crew ran aground off the southern Philippine island of Mindanao, killing one person aboard, the coast guard said today.

Commander Benjamin Palafox, coast guard spokesman here, said the 72-ton Farida 6 developed engine trouble an hour after departing from Pagadian city late on Sunday on a voyage to Cotabato city, about 900 kilometres south of Manila.

He said the vessel drifted for about five hours before running aground 400 metres from the shore of Lanao Del Norte province.

Palafox said all the passengers were safe except for a 50-year-old woman, Felisa Abis, who died after apparently suffering a stroke or heart attack when the vessel began to list.

Initial unconfirmed reports incorrectly said the ship sank and up to 115 people were feared drowned, Palafox said.

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An expression of Arab and Muslim conscience

Amir's letter to Moscow summit leaders praised

A PROMINENT Palestinian figure yesterday said the letter sent by HH the Amir of Kuwait to the Moscow summit was an expression of the conscience of the Arabs and Muslims alike.

The letter of the Amir, whose pan-Arab stands have won him the admiration and appreciation of all, has been sent at the appropriate time and truly demonstrated the spirit of the people of Kuwait and that of the Arab and Islamic nations, Salah Khalaf, member of the Central Committee of the mainstream Palestinian commando movement Fatah said.

Khalaf, who was speaking to Kuna shortly after arrival yesterday for talks with senior Kuwait officials, was commenting on the letter the Amir sent President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev urging them to give regional issues specially the Arab-Israeli conflict, Lebanon and the Iraq-Iran war and other troubles in the Islamic world due thought in their deliberations.

Undermine

In his lengthy statement to Kuna, the leading Fatah man warned of what he labelled as attempts to undermine the outcome of the historic meeting late last month between the PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and President Hafez Al Assad of

Syria in Damascus, which signalled a new era in Syrian-Palestinian relations.

Code-named Abu Iyad, Khalaf said that although a great many friends and brothers welcomed the Arafat-Assad meeting, other forces laboured to undermine the get-together, the latest of which was the Palestinian camps clashes between dissident Fatah factions.

In this connection, he dismissed reports of Arafat blaming Syria for the Palestinian camps clashes in Lebanon saying Arafat would not do anything to provoke Syria at the time the extraordinary Arab summit was due to discuss the uprising.

Transformed

Commenting on the popular uprising in occupied Palestine, which is now well into the sixth month, Khalaf said the uprising transformed the Palestinian cause from one of refugees to the struggle of a people longing for liberation and independence by all means.

The stone-throwing struggle of the Palestinian children has commanded the respect of friends and foes alike and compelled all peoples to admit that there is foreign occupation and that the people want to rid themselves of that occupation.

Affirming that there can be no compromise or concessions, Abu Iyad said the leadership of the uprising inside Palestine has put the course of events in the right track to self-determination.

Reconsider

Referring to Iraq's victories in the battlefield with Iran, Khalaf said Iraqi recapture of the Faw and the Salmechah reasserted Iraq's ability to use various Army units in hitherto unknown co-ordination in the Arab armies to win a war.

Khalaf predicted that recent Iraqi triumphs in the war will force Iran to reconsider and choose to negotiate an end to the war.

On the assassination of the deputy commander-in-chief of the Palestinian forces, Khalil Al Wazir, Abu Iyad said the PLO is in possession of evidence incriminating the United States with Israel in the assassination. "We will soon reveal the evidence without embarrassing anyone," he said.

The PLO has, furthermore, received threats from the United States through Arab countries with the view to forcing the PLO to enter into confrontation with the American administration over the issue of the American involvement in the assassination of Abu Jihad, he stated without elaboration.



HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah with Mrs Intisar Al Wazir and Salem Zanoun.

GCC traffic week proved successful

LIEUTENANT Colonel Mustafa Jumrah from the traffic department speaking at the weekly Diwaniah (seminar) of Kuwait's Roads Safety Society lauded the efforts of the GCC unified traffic week, which had proved successful at the local and regional levels.

Jumrah stated that the "exercise of the last traffic week" had highlighted important and imperative issues aimed at providing a better in-sight to the traffic issue. He said these would be vital in formulating plans for organising future traffic weeks. The next traffic week would be held under the slogan "Vehicle Safety".

Activities

The activities of the past week were centred on the role of motorists in minimising accidents and had proved effective by way of motorists coordination and cooperation with the ministries, institutions, and public welfare societies accord-

ing to Jumrah. He added that 120 traffic accidents were reported throughout Kuwait during the traffic week, while next week, the number of accidents rose to 144.

Dr Nabeel Abdurrahman also speaking about the activities of the Roads Safety Society and its role in spreading traffic awareness among the public during the traffic week said, "to mark the week, the society had hosted numerous traffic officials of the GCC member states, honoured ideal drivers of Kuwait Public Transport Company, arranged visits to the traffic victims at Kuwaiti hospitals and had organised a seminar on the occasion of the traffic week in coordination with the Al Razi Hospital."

The seminar was attended by the secretary-general of the society, Nabeel Abdurrahman, the chairman Sabah Al Rayes, the deputy chairman of the society, Major-General (retired) Yusuf Al Saad and a number of the society's members.

250,000 residence permits registered

LT. Col. Naser Al Bannai, the Director of the Immigration Department in Kuwait's Ahmadi Governorate, has said that 250,000 residence permits have been registered at the Ahmadi Immigration Department, with 600 to 700 applications processed daily.

Al Bannai said that staff members are trained to handle changes in regulations and the use of new equipment. He added that they are looking into the possibility of selling residence stamps at the immigration offices rather than at the post office.

He explained that persons who wish to bring their families to Kuwait for residence must receive a monthly salary of KD450 if employed by the government and KD600 if employed in the private sector. He added that the Interior Minister is able to make exceptions depending on the type of job performed by the applicant.

Persons entering Kuwait on a visitors visa are not allowed to extend the visa except in cases of illness, Al Bannai said, adding that Kuwaiti embassies issue visitors visas in cooperation with the Interior Ministry.

Saudi women give birth to five more test-tube babies

BAHRAIN, May 30, (Reuters): Three Saudi Arabian women gave birth to five test-tube babies including a set of triplets in a Jeddah hospital this week the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said today.

The agency said one woman gave birth to female triplets after 10 years of trying to have children, while another, aged 35, who had been trying to conceive since she was 20, had a boy. A third woman had a boy after nine childless years.

The new births bring to 60 the number of test-tube babies born in the kingdom, with another 28 women pregnant and expecting delivery during the next few months, SPA said.

560 students to attend summer courses

GHULOUM Al Attar, the Director of the Social Service and Further Education Centre at Kuwait's Public Authority for Training and Applied Education, has said the authority will offer training courses open to the public during the summer.

He added that 560 students are expected to take advantage of summer courses which include computer programming, car mechanics electrical works, and video and TV repair.

Courses will be offered from 4 to 6 pm and 6 to 8 pm, four days per week at a cost of KD10 per course.

Two programmes have been prepared especially for members of labour unions and Zakat House staff, for which applicants are required to show their passports or Civil Identification cards and to be able to read and write. Graduates from these programmes will be given official certificates from the authority, Al Attar said.

Efforts made to reorganise institution: Zahid Saeed

International School of Pakistan run inefficiently

By Hamid Siddiqui

THE International School of Pakistan was being run inefficiently and was lacking control and guidance towards teachers, according to the Pakistani Ambassador Zahid Saeed. But he said a great deal of work is being done to reorganise the school by providing competent teachers from Pakistan and utilising the services of qualified people available in Kuwait.

"We are trying to provide education in accordance with the standard laid down by the Federal Board of Secondary Education, Islamabad, up to the Intermediate Science (I.Sc.) level. We will also provide books in our library up to the graduation level," the ambassador (who is also the chairman of the board of governors of the school) told the Arab Times.

He said the embassy would also conduct all future exams, adding that Pakistani female students would be able to appear for Bachelor of Arts degree in Kuwait.

Allegations

He said the school management has appointed 15 teachers after interviewing 36 candidates to fill a number of vacancies. The teachers, he said, are highly qualified and experienced. The school recently terminated the services of six non-Pakistani teachers but gave them the option of applying again. The ambassador said two of the

sacked teachers have been re-employed.

The Ambassador vehemently denied allegations made by a number of parents that the Principal, Dr Manzoor Ali, was forced to resign in order to put the present Vice-Principal, Mrs Nasreen Abid, in charge of the school.

He said: "I found that the principal was appointed on a temporary basis and was not capable of discharging his function efficiently. He could not control the administration and many problems were being referred to the chairman and the secretary of the board. There was a spill-over of work at the embassy. We, therefore, felt that we should follow the advice of the Pakistani Education Ministry and get a qualified and experienced principal from Pakistan. Sensing this, Dr Manzoor Ali submitted his resignation of his own free will."

Zahid Saeed said he had asked the Education Ministry in Islamabad to select a principal and a vice-principal as well as six qualified teachers in order to improve the standard of the school.

Asked about the controversy over the vice-principal who was alleged to have tampered with answer sheets of some top students of Iaf-3 class and allegedly asked the class teacher to deduct marks from these students in order to upgrade the result of her own daughter, it has

ROYAL COURT

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday received at his office in the Council of Ministers the Ministers of Interior, Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem, the Defence Minister, Sheikh Nasser Al Sabah, and Sheikh Masha'al Ahmad Al Jaber.

The Crown Prince also received the chairman of the audit bureau Foreas Al Waqlyan, board chairman and director general of Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) Borges Hamoud Al Borges and Kuwaiti ambassador to Tunisia Abdul Mohssen Al Jai'oon and Ambassador to Morocco Abdul Aziz Al Sar'awi.

Sheikh Saad also met at his office Mrs Intisar Al Wazir, widow of Palestinian martyr Khalil Al Wazir, and her son Jihad. Deputy Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Safim Al Zanoun and head of PLO's office in Kuwait Ouni British attended the meeting.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Call to dismantle horror

A KUWAITI daily yesterday commented on a message sent by HH the Amir to the leaders of the two superpowers. Al Rai Al Aom stressed that the current summit meeting will be more like a "foreword" than a meeting to sort out persisting problems and regional issues.

The paper said the message sent by the Amir is "an additional word for pushing forward and pace, and a reminder for the two leaders that what was achieved between them on the level of nuclear race will not change much the balances as long as there are human problems still not solved."

"The Amir's message was truly the yell of truth and the peace call to dismantle horror and bypass the balance games," the Kuwaiti newspaper said.

It concluded that the letter sought to convince Reagan and Gorbachev to adopt the Middle East question on top of their agenda in any upcoming meeting while the Arab leaders are trying to convince the world that they are up to the responsibility and can forge a united stand to face the challenges.

Call for deepening Arab role in supporting Palestinians

THREE Arab lecturers and intellectuals called for deepening the Arab role in supporting the Palestinian people's struggle and realising their historical and legitimate rights.

During yesterday's series of seminars at the Kuwaiti Graduates Association on the elapse of 40 years since the occupation of Palestine, Dr Mohammed Salhiyeh from Kuwait University reviewed the several Zionist and colonialist plots and intrigues in creating Israel.

He specially drew attention to massacres designed and executed by Zionist cliques against Palestinians, was under British colonial rule. The first UN resolution on Palestine in 1948 was also taken to curb the collapse of the Zionist entity.

Former diplomat, professor

George Tuma stressed the need for scholarly analysis of Arab crises in light of modern hypotheses.

Tuma said the UN General Assembly has taken 325 decisions in support of the Palestinian cause and in condemnation of the Zionist state.

The UN Security Council, Tuma added, also took 135 resolutions, not to speak of other UN bodies.

Dr Hani Faris, an Arab professor at a Canadian University, read out a paper on the relationship between the Palestinian cause and the pan-Arab struggle, stressing that the Palestinian struggle can only be effective when it does not remove itself from the Arab national struggle.

He called for Arab co-operation between well-off and low-income countries to bridge the gap between the Arab countries' national income.

He warned against chauvinistic attitudes that might emerge whether in the Palestinian resistance movement or in any Arab country as this would endanger the entire Arab future.

Sheikh Nawaf receives

Argentine envoy

DEFENCE Minister Sheikh Nawaf received yesterday the Argentine Ambassador to Saudi Arabia who is also the non-resident Ambassador to Kuwait.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and means of consolidating them.

The ambassador delivered a message to Sheikh Nawaf from his Argentine counterpart dealing with bilateral relations in the military sector.

Outgoing staff honoured



DR MODHI Al Humoud, the Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Economy and Political Science at Kuwait University, hosted a dinner party recently in honour of the outgoing staff members and faculty administrators.

Speaking at the party, Dr Al

Humoud praised the efforts of staff members and employees in meeting the educational needs of students and faculty.

Dr Al Humoud presented gifts to outgoing faculty members at the conclusion of the evening. Dr Al Humoud (above left) presents a gift to one of the professors.

Training on co-operative movement

A SPECIALISED training course for directors of co-operative societies aimed at exchanging experiences to develop the co-operative movement, opened yesterday at the Arab Planning Institute.

The course's programme which is organised by the institute and the general union of consumer co-operatives, will discuss the history of consumer co-operatives worldwide and locally, and its relation with the co-operative movement here.

The three-week course will also analyse the economic and social activities within the co-operative movement march.

Milk free from diseases

DIRECTOR of animal health at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Sultan, said yesterday that milk of the milk producers union farms is free from any contagious diseases.

He told a press conference that recent cases of foot-and-mouth diseases among the cattle population in the country has not affected milk production because of the close supervision maintained by the authority over these farms.

\$2m given to Islamic centre

KUWAIT has contributed a sum of \$2 million to the Islamic Cultural Centre in New York. It was disclosed here yesterday.

An official of the Foreign Ministry said that this sum will be used for the completion of the Islamic centre in New York.

Saudia to operate 20 extra flights for haj

SAUDI Arabian Airlines will put 20 extra flights into operation to carry pilgrims from Kuwait to Madina and Jeddah during the haj.

According to an agreement Saudi Airlines and Kuwait Airways will jointly carry pilgrims to and from Kuwait.

A joint office was opened on May 25 with a team of employees from both airlines serving pilgrims.

Every effort has been made to facilitate travel for the pilgrims and in providing all needed services.

Training courses end

INTERIOR Minister, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, yesterday patronised closure of two training courses, at the Officers Training Institute, an affiliate of the Police academy, on explosives, arson and English language.

The Director of the Police Academy Col Abdullah Hamza Al Roumi welcomed the minister and explained that the academy sets its training programmes to cope with the security needs.

Sheikh Salem handed the 33 officers, attending the course, certificates and urged them to double efforts and acquaint themselves with any advancement in their field of work.



Meridien Hotel brings the Philippines to Kuwait from June 2 to 9 with authentic Filipino food and shows each evening in the La Brasserie Restaurant. Picture shows some Filipino food.

IMMIGRATION TO CANADA

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Druze leader condemns call for partitioning his country

Jumblatt discusses Lebanese situation with Sheikh Sabah

KUWAIT'S Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad, received yesterday the head of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party and Minister of Public Works and Transport, Walid Jumblatt, and the delegation accompanying him on the occasion of their visit to Kuwait.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters after the meeting that discussions dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the problems that country is suffering.

Sheikh Sabah also said: "We deliberated the best means for ending these problems and taking Lebanon away from its ordeal."

He expressed hope that this issue would be discussed at the next Arab summit conference in Algiers on June 7 with the aim of realising stability and security in Lebanon.

Stability
He emphasised that "stability in Lebanon and securing the interests of the Lebanese people is a stability for all the Arabs."

Jumblatt also visited Sheikh Jaber Al Ali at his Diwan.

Jumblatt also visited Saudi Arabia where he gave an interview to the daily Al Sayasah.

In the interview with Hussein Tantawi he said: "I hope the elections of the new Lebanese president would be held as scheduled. However, without political reform, the new president would only be heading a crisis-ridden country." He added that his party would not work towards adjourning the election, but accused President Amin Gemayel of endeavouring to postpone the elections so as to



Walid Jumblatt

extend his tenure of presidency. His party, he said, had nominated Antwan Al Ashkar for presidency and had drawn up a programme to rescue Lebanon from the present civil war.

He went on to say that the reform programme focused on eradicating the system of political denominationalism in Lebanon — meaning all Lebanese would have equal rights and duties. At present, he said, Druzes elect Druze candidates, Maronites elect Maronite candidates and Sunnis elect Sunni candidates. He recommended the institution of a new law, whereby people would elect the president directly and the establishment of a Senate Council represented by all sects who would be empowered to discuss all serious issues and take the required decisive decisions.

Reforms
Additionally, there should be a higher council of judgement, independent of the government, to address the vital issue of having a social and economic programme for developing the poor areas of Lebanon, he said.

Jumblatt said the Army should be reorganised on Arabic and national basis. According to the present constitution, the president holds this authority which should instead be delegated to the Council of Ministers. He hoped the Lebanese would achieve revolutionary political reforms before elections of a new president — though, how this was possible, while elections were so close, including the existence of powers that reject these political reforms, posed a dilemma, he said.

He added that President Gemayel and the Lebanese forces (Phalangists) reject these reforms. Further, some parties want to extract Lebanon from Arab and Islamic circles to link it with Israel and the West. But, he added, "We do not lose hope and shall defend our country."

Partition
Jumblatt condemned calls for creating separate entities to divide Lebanon on a sectarian basis. Admitting that sects and militias do have areas of influence, he refused to accept this state of affairs and said his party would strongly fight against any form of partition. He accused and condemned Israel and its allies as being forces behind calls for dividing Lebanon. He said Israel, as a condition for its existence, desires to see the development of more sectarian states in the region and was thus working in this direction.

On the question of kidnapping and terrorist acts, Jumblatt strongly condemned both. Explaining these as modern phenomena, he recommended Arab and international efforts to

eradicate these acts. He stated that "terrorism" should be defined. Terrorist acts, he said, are those carried out by Israel in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and also against Arab countries — including its attacks on South Lebanon. He termed the kidnapping of individuals and hijacking of planes "dirty deeds" that no wise individual would condone. He called for introducing an international law to stop such inhuman acts — whatever the cost.

Militias
Asked if he saw the dissolving of armed militias leading to a political solution in Lebanon, Jumblatt said: "We will not dissolve the militias or lay down arms until political guarantees are made." He added that as long as a Phalangist project motivated by Israel and the West is active in Lebanon and the Lebanese Army as the means for oppression exist, arms would not be laid down. He admitted that it was difficult to abolish political sectarianism in Lebanon today, although this represented the ambition of all Lebanese. The main obstacle to achieve this goal was the amendment of the constitution.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Jumblatt hoped to see a quick end. He described it as a destructive war that exhausts the Arab and Islamic countries. We as Arabs, he stressed, should work to stop the war and called for the implementation of the UN resolutions. He also praised the Palestinian uprising in the occupied countries and urged its continuity and support for achieving its objectives.

King Fahd receives Amir's message

RIYADH, May 30, (Kuna): Saudi King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz has received a message from HH the Amir of Kuwait.

Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said that Kuwaiti Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Abdul Rahman Al Buker delivered the message to King Fahd during a meeting with him Sunday night.

Meanwhile, King Fahd received a message from Amir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani.

SPA added that Qatari Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Abdullah Al-Meneh has delivered the message to the Saudi monarch.

The Saudi agency did not reveal contents of the two messages.

Appeal for blood

A PATIENT, who will undergo neurosurgery, needs blood immediately.

Shawkat Ali will undergo surgery tomorrow at the Ibn Sin Hospital. But for the surgery to be performed, three litres of "B negative" or "O negative" blood are needed.

The Kuwait Blood Bank currently has no supplies of "B negative" or "O negative" blood, which Ali needs. His relatives have appealed to people to donate the necessary blood.

If you are willing to donate blood, contact telephone numbers 4743125 or 4712357 immediately.

Iraqi victory seen as start of new stage

BAGHDAD, May 30, (KUNA): A senior Iraqi official has described the recent Iraqi victories of Faw peninsula and Salamchah as "a start of new stage" and affirmed "Iran's inability and failure to reach its goals."

Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Tariq Aziz added during the Iraqi National cabinet session yesterday, that these victories restored military and political power to its right balance that will enable Iraq to impose just and comprehensive peace.

He warned against Iran's and other parties' misleading manoeuvres aiming at aborting efforts to implement the Security Council resolution 598, which calls for an immediate ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war. Aziz indicated that Iran is not sincere about peace, while Iraq has a clear stance.

Aziz called on the UN Secretary General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, to acquire an unconditional, clear and honest agreement from top Iranian authorities that affirms Iran's serious desire to implement resolution 598.

The Iraqi official praised Saudi Arabia's decision on breaking diplomatic relations with Iran and described it as "a proper national stance."

Agreement signed to co-ordinate agricultural research

SHEIKH Ibrahim Al Duaij Al Sabah, chairman of the Public Authority for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs and Dr Ahmad Al Jassar, director general of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) signed an agreement to form a joint committee to co-ordinate and develop agricultural research.

An Amiri Decree appointing Al Jassar as director general of KISR was published in the official Gazette "Kuwait Al Youm."

The agreement aims at enhancing the national awareness towards developing Kuwaiti resources of livestock, marine life and agriculture.

Subcommittees will be formed to co-ordinate efforts between KISR and the authority. The committee will develop plans and recommend priorities for undertaking future projects.

Technical subcommittees will review research projects and



Picture shows Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij Al Sabah (right) and Dr Al Jassar signing the joint agreement at KISR headquarters.

present their recommendations to the main committee for approval.

Sheikh Ibrahim Al Sabah and

Dr Al Jassar concurred that the agreement was but a first step in the process of establishing co-operative joint projects.

Walters ends Mideast tour

RIYADH, May 30, (Reuters): US envoy Vernon Walters left Saudi Arabia on Monday after a 10-nation Middle East tour, he said, was aimed at exploring regional views on the Gulf war and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Saudi news agency said Walters, American ambassador to the United Nations, left the Red Sea port of Jeddah and US officials said he was returning to New York. His tour began on May 12.

Humiliate
Walters held talks with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal on Sunday.

He told reporters during stops in Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar and Bahrain that Washington was drafting a new UN resolution to

enforce an arms embargo on Iran to make it comply with a security council ceasefire resolution.

He said the aim was not to humiliate Iran, only to stop the killing in its war with Iraq, now in its eighth year.

"We think if members of the United Nations observe (an embargo), it will prevent major military operations," he said.

Walters discussed the Arab-Israeli conflict in Israel in advance of US Secretary of State George Shultz's planned visit to the region next month and assured political leaders of Washington's continued commitment to Israeli security.

UAE President, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan told Walters it was in the American interest to take a firm stand in efforts to solve the Palestinian

problem.

"Arab states expect the US to take a firm position ... before it is too late," he said.

Pleased
Walters said he was "very pleased" with talks he held for three hours with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus.

He said Assad had a humanitarian concern for the foreign hostages held captive in Beirut's southern suburbs but it was too early to say if Syria's troop deployment in the Shi'ite slums would help them.

"President Assad, as a military man is very aware of the possible dangers and possible advantages... I left the matter to his judgement," Walters said.

Walters also visited Egypt, Jordan and Iraq.

Training vital for administrative development, says Mishari

By Lima Khalafawi

THE administrative development policy has a vital, constructive role in training qualified personnel to keep pace with advances in various spheres. Kuwait Airways Chairman, Ahmed Al Mishari, said in an open discussion by officials responsible for training and development of human resources at Kuwaiti associations and establishments, held yesterday at the Kuwait Airways premises.

He pointed out that from this concept, plans were being made to develop manpower resources, the basic element in social and economic development, which required massive utilisation of available expertise.

He said that this required laying down the basis for close joint co-operation between the various national authorities and establishments.

Planning
He added that in order to achieve this goal and co-ordinate efforts, KAC had advanced the idea of co-operation between the various national authorities to set the stage for joint and co-ordinated planning.

He said that contacts were made aimed at exchanging expertise and views as a way of crystallising work in this direction.

Exchange
He said that a meeting was planned for officers in charge of training and manpower development to attain a number of goals.

The objectives included the exchange of expertise in the field of training and development, the



Al Mishari

establishment of a computer centre for training and development purposes, rationalisation of training costs, provision of collective technical counsel in the field of training and development and the use of available financial and manpower possibilities.

A work team was formed to organise get-togethers and to supervise co-ordination with the other national establishments in order to expand and allow the largest number of organisations to participate.

Ties
The head of the co-ordination committee for administrative development and training, Ali Al Badah, said the committee aims at establishing strong ties among directors and supervisors at different government and private establishments in the fields of manpower training and adminis-

tration.

Al Badah added that the committee's main duties emphasised establishing coordination policies among training members. Other duties concentrated on manpower development, conducting special studies on the activities of the committee and participation in training course meetings and conferences.

Sulaiman Al Mutaa introduced participants with a brief history of the Kuwaiti administrative society activities. He stated that more companies and national establishments are concerned with the training task, particularly foreign companies.

Elections
The Dean of Commerce, Economics and Political Science at Kuwait University, Dr Mudi Al Homoud stressed the need to co-ordinate efforts towards more accurate development. She criticised the idea of elections to choose new members for the committee and said experience was crucial to the election process.

Another participant, Ahmed Al Gharaballi, Chairman of Kuwait International Fairgrounds, stressed the necessity of the administrative society in order to ensure the development of this society in raising the efficiency of the employees.

At the end of the discussion, another two members were elected to the committee which included Ali Al Badah, President and Adel Al Shabbi, Dr Najala Al Nassar, Hisham Al Gharaballi, Mishari Al Obaid, Dr Mudi Al Homoud, Sulaiman Al Qaddi and Dr Jassem Al Omar as members.

Sheikh Saad receives Sir Richard

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah received yesterday in his office Vice Chief of UK Defence Staff General Sir Richard Vincent and the accompanying delegation on the occasion of their visit to the country.

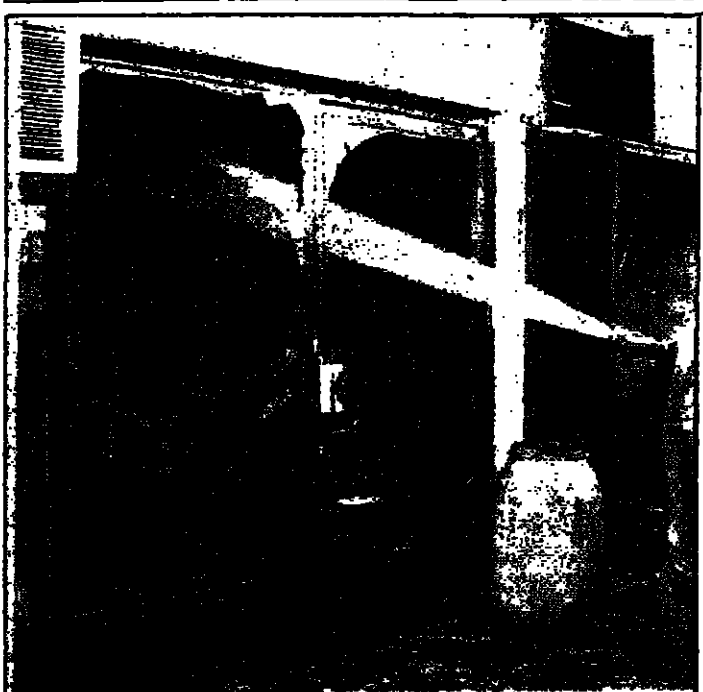
Kuwait's Defence Minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed also received Sir Richard and the delegation accompanying him.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with fraternal bilateral relations between the two countries, particularly the military relations and ways of consolidating them.

The meeting was attended by Chief of Staff Major General Meziad Abdul Rahman Al Sane and the Ministry's Undersecretary Faisal Al Dawoud and the British Ambassador to Kuwait.

Bahrain message

ABU DHABI, May 30, (Kuna): UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan today received a verbal message from the Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Issa Bin Salmaan Al Khalifa, on bilateral relations.



Commander of Shuwalkh and Farwaniya area of the fire department, Lt. Col. Hamid Bahmen said a fire occurred in a garage in Canada Dry Street yesterday. The fire believed to have been caused by a cigarette of a worker cleaning a car engine with petrol, completely damaged the garage and slightly injured two workers who were rushed to the hospital for treatment. Picture shows the damage. (Picture by Raed Outtiah)

CONDOLENCE - THANKS

Our sincere thanks to the staff of K.O.T.C. (Financial section), relatives and friends for expressing their condolences on the sad demise of our beloved father, late Haji Abdul Rehman in Pakistan.

Mohd. Iqbal Sajid
Munir Ahmad



MOHAMED Abdul Rahman Al Bahar, the authorised SKF Distributor in Kuwait for the last 20 years, became a member of the new SKF Worldwide Distributor Identification Programme at a recent signing ceremony in Kuwait (pictured above). The agreement was signed by George Liber, SKF Market Manager for the Middle East and Africa and Marwan Zalaitmo, Kuwait Branch Manager of Mohamed Abdul Rahman Al Bahar. The signing was witnessed by Tommy Klein, SKF Distributors/Dealers Manager for the Middle East and Africa and Amin Shamoun, Al Bahar Branch Parts Manager.

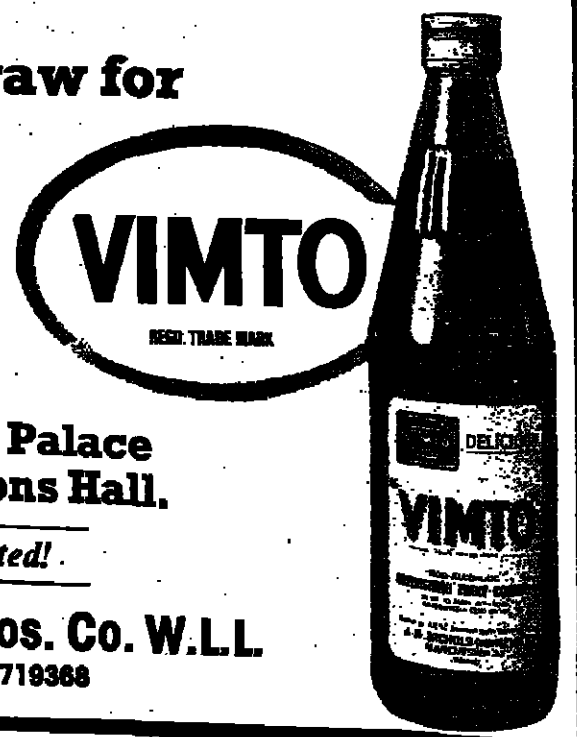
Don't forget the
Grand Raffle Draw for the Summer Refreshing Drink Competition
today, 4.30 pm

at Hyatt Regency Palace
Grand Celebrations Hall.

All are invited!



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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

DEBT is a bottomless sea — Thomas Carlyle, Scottish essayist-historian (1795-1881).

Zia takes a calculated risk

By Eric Hall and Ibrahim Khan

ISLAMABAD. (Reuters): President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, who just closed down his country's political system, may be taking a calculated risk to extend his power into the 1990s and keep Pakistan stable, political analysts say.

But no one yesterday was willing to say they knew the mind of the President, who on Sunday dismissed Parliament, threw out his own government for incompetence, humiliated his chosen prime minister, and called for elections in 90 days.

Theories abound. Both foreign and Pakistani analysts list many factors which could have prompted Zia to cut short an important trip to China and take back the reins of control.

Reasons

Fear that the war in Afghanistan was running out of Pakistan's control, worries that separatist movements were pulling the country apart, and dissatisfaction over his policy of creating an Islamic state was crumbling, were quoted by Pakistan analysts.

The need to take some painful economic decisions to reduce the country's indebtedness, Zia's reluctance to cut the large military budget were also given as reasons.

However, "none of these are new problems, and Zia was more critical of the government's handling of them before," one Western diplomat said.

Such a move by Zia had been discussed as a possibility in political circles, but the timing was quite unexpected.

"One reason we don't know is that it is perfectly clear he took absolutely no one into his confidence," the diplomat said.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, back from a foreign trip, told reporters how well everything was going in Pakistan only minutes before Zia announced he was dropping him.

"I was at the airport with Junejo and I could see even the Army chiefs of staff were unaware," said another diplomat.

Zia, who came to power in a military coup in 1977, ended martial law in 1985, announced he was starting a controlled move toward democracy, and picked Junejo to see it through.

The Frontier Post, the only paper to get out an editorial on the situation yesterday, called Zia's move a second coup but said truly free elections would be for the best.

Exempt

A clue to Zia's behaviour could be his contention in an interview earlier this month that his promise to step down by 1990 as the powerful man in uniform, did not rule out that he could continue in power out of uniform.

But under the constitution, a soldier cannot hold political office for at least two years after quitting the armed forces.

Zia is now exempt but eventually must extend the exemption by presidential decree while no government exists, or get the next friendly government to do it, the analyst said.

If so, however, he is going about it in an odd way by undermining Junejo and his Pakistan Muslim League (PML) party,

the basis of Zia's democratic political power, they added.

But they said Zia could also be gambling that the opposition is in as much disarray as the PML. Opposition leaders yesterday were still struggling to work out a response to Zia's move and bury their differences.

Some analysts said it would be wrong to think that Zia was manoeuvring for political power for the sake of it and that he was also genuinely concerned to keep Pakistan stable.

For two years, Zia the general was content to let the politicians take a front seat but appeared to think it was time to reassert Army control, they said.

Decisive

"This is rather like the old Zia. It demonstrates the decisiveness and forthrightness of his character," said a European diplomat.

However, Pakistani analysts said Zia was not beyond allowing his weakness for the Army to cloud his judgement.

Some newspaper columnists yesterday speculated that one reason for Zia's move was to protect Army officers who they alleged were to blame for a huge munitions dump explosion, which killed and maimed hundreds in Islamabad in April.

In addition, a seeming domestic calm imposed by the Army eventually undermined itself, said those analysts who held this view.

"As long as there is an authoritarian government with no democratic consensus, there will be sectarianism and separatism," said a professor of politics, who declined to be identified.

Reaction

Dismay and fears of a new military coup in Pakistan turned to anger, approval, and apathy yesterday.

In the country's biggest city of Karachi, swelling under the summer sun on the edge of the Arabian Sea, thousands of students shouted support for popular opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, but an illiterate mango seller said Zia was right.

"Zia has done the right thing because Prime Minister (Mohammad Khan) Junejo failed to speed up the Islamisation process," said Mohammad Umer, selling his fruit at a corner in the Empress Bazaar.

Some residents in the western city of Lahore on Sunday night said they first feared that Zia, who lifted martial law in 1985, had called the Army out again after he sacked the cabinet.

Other Pakistanis appeared to welcome the possibility.

"I want a very strict martial law," said 58-year-old Latif Hashmi, a cargo agent in Karachi.

Graft

Zia said he made his move because the government had failed to achieve proper democracy, had not founded a true Islamic government, and had endangered the integrity of the nation.

Some were more concerned with graft. "I am very much concerned with corruption. More and more members of national and local government have been driving around in big, expensive cars in the past two years," said car mechanic Babu.

"There could not be less. I am not concerned with the changes," said butcher Yamin in the busy area of old Karachi.

Turkish editor fights restrictions

By Adrian Foreman

ISTANBUL, Turkey. (UPI): Fatma Yazici, the 33-year-old editor of an opposition news magazine, has so many prosecutions ahead of her that, even after three acquittals, she could still be sent to jail for more than a century.

She is one reason why the International Press Institute — which styles itself a human rights organisation — challenged Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to his face to declare an amnesty for jailed journalists and lift restrictive press laws.

Yazici's publication, "Towards 2000," is an Istanbul-based weekly that tackles issues other Turkish publications fear to broach. Since its birth in January 1987 its issues have been confiscated four times and it has attracted 18 prosecutions.

Thus far Yazici has been sentenced to 3 years, 8 months in jail on a variety of charges. She has

been found innocent in three other cases and six more are nearing trial.

Her latest notice of prosecution — ironically delivered as the IPI assembly was still in session — followed a story about a report on Turkey by a Helsinki human rights group.

The report, titled "Destroying ethnic identity — the Kurds of Turkey," is freely available to Turks in English. But the Istanbul prosecutor charged Yazici under article 142 of the penal code, which makes it a crime to "weaken national sentiment" and to quote from an illegally published work.

The charge could bring Yazici another 7 to 15 years in jail.

Six other stories about Kurds, ranging from a report on discussions in West Germany's parliament to another implying Turkish founding father Kemal Ataturk had favoured some degree of Kurdish autonomy, each led to court proceedings.

War remains top priority for Tehran

Iran divided over domestic economic policy

By Claude van England

BRUSSELS: The war with Iraq remains a top priority for Iran. But officials in Tehran concede that financing the war is having a severe effect on the country's economy and the government is divided over domestic economic policy.

The war now guzzles 40 per cent of state expenditures, and the draw on Iran's hard-currency earnings is increasing.

Weaponry prices on international markets sharply increased in the aftermath of the Iran-Contra scandal in November 1986. Iran is importing weapons-manufacturing equipment, so that a measure of self-sufficiency will allow it to reduce spending on arms.

Nevertheless, heavy war expenditures have reduced dramatically the amount of foreign exchange at the disposal of factories that produce consumer goods. As a result, many

of those enterprises have been forced to close for want of parts and materials.

"I can't get currencies to buy the machines I need to keep my factory running. Most of my workers are at the front," says an Iranian industrialist.

Western commercial attaches in Tehran say that if this trend persists it may well lead to the destruction of entire sectors of Iran's traditional industry.

Decline

At a meeting in early April, Tehran-based economic attaches from developed countries concluded that Iran suffers from a sharp decline in its oil revenues combined with a rise in the costs of imports.

According to the attaches, Iran's foreign currency reserves stand at \$3 to \$4 billion. (Iranians say they have \$5.5 billion). Officially, Iran has no foreign debt but Western businessmen say it owes \$1.5 billion to a number of Western companies. None of the debt is overdue.

Iran's major trading partners

are Japan and West Germany. These two countries' currencies in the last two years have appreciated sharply against the US dollar, the currency in which Iran is paid for its oil exports.

In response, the government has tried to convince Iranian migrant workers living in Gulf countries to send their salaries home. Tehran is also trying to boost its non-oil exports. Businessmen in Europe confirm that Iranian sales of carpets, fruits, vegetables, and manufactured products were up 25 per cent last year. In spite of this surge, these businessmen say, non-oil exports do not represent more than 10 per cent of Iran's income.

A major problem is the poor quality of Iranian products. Last year Iran started exporting cars under a licence from the French company Renault. The commercial attaché of a European country says, "Those cars don't meet (European Economic Community) security standards, but the Bulgarians have begun importing them."

Iranian officials concede their economy has had a hard time since oil prices sharply dropped in 1986. They say the recession is not as deep as Westerners contend, but acknowledge they're divided on how to overcome it.

A Western diplomat explains: "The Iranian industrial sector belongs to two cabinet ministers: one, Gholamreza Shafiei, is a free marketer. The other, Behzad Nabavi, is a state interventionist. Their controversies often end up in the paralysis of the decision-making process."

Prime Minister Mir Hossein Musavi favours state intervention, with the aim of reducing Iranian social inequities. But, though most of his reformist bills were passed by the parliament, they were vetoed by the Council of Guardians, a body that is entrusted with the task of verifying that new laws are compatible with Islam.

In January, Ayatollah Khomeini intervened in the debate and sided with Musavi, who is now going ahead with his

reforms. Already, 3 per cent of the country's arable land has been confiscated from landlords with large private holdings and distributed to peasants.

One consequence of economic intervention has been a decline in influence and dynamism of the bazaar. This class of entrepreneurs, businessmen, and merchants has for centuries been the spearhead of Iran's economy. It was the main sponsor of the 1979 revolution.

Bureaucracy

Another effect of the policy, the Western attaches say, is an increasingly heavy bureaucracy. Now, 37 per cent of Iran's imports go through state-owned companies known as "procurement and distribution centres."

The struggle over economic policy continues. Bazaar and wealthy landowners, backed by their representatives in the parliament and in the cabinet, accuse Musavi of destroying the country's traditional economic structures. Supporters of Musavi

say reforms like the nationalisation of foreign trade and the land redistribution bill are being sabotaged by free marketers.

Meanwhile, Iranian authorities have been forced to ask their people to further tighten their belts. Imports of consumer goods have been dramatically reduced. Companies whose products are seen as not strategic are not allowed to change Iranian rials into hard currency at banks. The national airline, Iran Air, now sells its tickets in foreign currency. This renders travel abroad virtually impossible for average Iranians.

In order to alleviate the burden of the recession on the lower classes of the society the Iranian government maintains a double-market system: Essential commodities can be bought at low prices with government-distributed coupons. Many companies and state administrations have set up their own distribution cooperatives.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



Jackson sprints on as nomination hopes fade

By Michael Conlon

LOS ANGELES. (Reuters): Although it is now clear that he has no chance of winning his party's nomination for the United States presidential election, Jesse Jackson is charging ahead with undiminished energy and expanding visions.

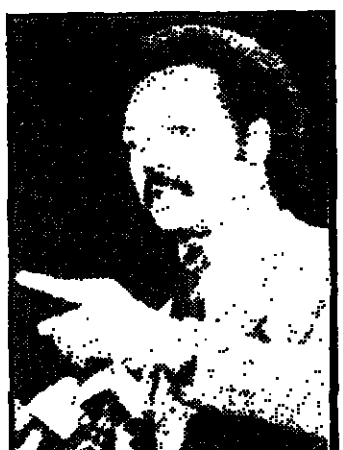
Despite a string of crushing losses to Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis in the latest early preference polls, Jackson has served notice he will campaign until the last primary vote is cast in California on June 7.

He seems intent on forcing the Democratic Party to take his vision of the future seriously.

Dukakis won the May 17 Oregon primary but Jackson captured a respectable 40 per cent of the vote in the nearly all-white state. That outcome, Jackson said, shows that disgruntled Democrats and "aimless" voters "now find their way in an expanding, growing, developing, progressive Democratic Party."

Asked if major changes were in store for the final stretch, Jackson's campaign manager, Gerald Austin, told Reuters: "No. What he's been doing has been looking quite fine."

The black civil rights leader's agenda for the final weeks of the campaign includes a trip to Mexico late this month to discuss with



Jesse Jackson

Latin American leaders problems ranging from debt to drugs.

There is also a possibility of a trip to Mozambique, where Jackson would carry on his attack against South Africa's policies towards neighbouring states.

In many ways Jackson's candidacy has been on the decline since late March, when a landslide victory in the Michigan voter meetings gave him his first triumph in the industrial north. It made him, briefly, the hottest candidate in the race.

Michigan temporarily arrested Dukakis' glide to the nomination and forced party insiders and journalists to re-examine their belief that Jackson's race

and ultra-liberal policies made him unelectable.

For the first time in two presidential bids, his policy proposals drew careful and widespread press scrutiny.

It is clear, now, that was the high point of Jesse Jackson's campaign.

Since then, Jackson has suffered defeat after defeat as white voters overwhelmingly backed Dukakis.

He now talks less of winning and more of not "surrendering."

Critical

While he reserves his harshest comments for Vice-President George Bush, the certain Republican nominee, Jackson has become increasingly critical of Dukakis in an apparent bid to nudge his rival to accept some of his policy positions.

He seems disappointed, if not bitter, that Democratic Party leaders have not joined his camp even though he feels he has drawn large numbers of new voters to the party.

"It's not just Dukakis versus Jackson. It's Jesse Jackson versus them," he said in reference to Democratic elders who are rallying behind Dukakis in the belief he has the party's best hope of capturing the White House. "I've had to earn my voters."

In other ways, there is little difference between the Jackson who is stumping New Jersey and California in the spring and the candidate who went prospecting for votes last winter in Iowa, Texas and South Carolina.

His campaign days still routinely run from early morning — perhaps breakfast at the home of a family with whom he has spent the night — to late-night rallies several cities and hundreds of miles away.

His speeches still carry the crowd-moving spirit and evangelism that both admirers and the curious turn out to see.

His message is largely unchanged — a call for more jobs, better housing, a higher minimum wage and other government efforts to aid the poor. And Jackson, a Baptist minister, continues to present his vision in the pulpit tradition.

His enthusiasm seems unabated.

In Portland, Oregon he seemed so caught up with the family of teacher Tom Swanson and his wife Erica who were his hosts overnight that he carried their eight-year-old daughter aboard a campaign bus for a tour. It could hardly have been done for the cameras, which were all outside the bus at the time.

By Richard Bill

SYDNEY. (AP): Rioting in Vanuatu and violence in New Caledonia have added to signs of instability in the South Pacific, already shaken by a coup in Fiji a year ago.

Some see an important lesson in the Fiji, New Caledonia and Vanuatu events, as well as in the rioting in Tahiti and political upheaval in Papua New Guinea.

"I worry about a precipitous decline in Western influence in the insular Pacific," says Fred Radewagen, a Washington-based specialist on the region who writes for the Washington Pacific Report, a newsletter.

While he says each situation may spring from local circumstances, there is an overall "perception of destabilisation," Radewagen says. This perception, he says, for years has made tentative moves to heighten its profile in the South Pacific.

Rioting

Meanwhile, Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, has linked another outside power, Libya, to rioting in Vanuatu, which was an Anglo-French condominium known as the "New Hebrides" until it achieved independence in 1980. Libya denied any involvement in the Vanuatu riots.

Vanuatu, a major offshore banking centre and tax haven, decided in 1986 to establish diplomatic relations with Libya and Moscow. Since then, it has suffered severe economic problems. One person was killed and nine injured in riots over land claims earlier this month in Vanuatu's capital of Port Vila.

There is no doubt about a Libyan connection in Vanuatu," Hawke said. "In a city with a population of less than 20,000 it is clear that these disturbances have been on a very serious scale."

For some years, the Soviet Union has sought and flourished on deals to obtain fishing agreements with a number of

Instability grows in South Pacific

island states, including Papua New Guinea and impoverished Kiribati. This week, Papua New Guinea's founding father, Michael Somare, bowed out of politics.

But some analysts believe France's activities in the Pacific are causing as many problems as those of other outside countries.

Fiji

"The Soviets like to flirt and meddle in the troubled waters of our region," said Alan Ward, a Pacific historian and professor of history at the University of Newcastle north of Sydney. "Libya is capable of low-level meddling. The Soviets have found out that fishing deals are not economically viable for either side."

"But France is very destabilising. It is a foregone conclusion that France cannot stay in New Caledonia in an old-style colonial relationship unless it is prepared to put up with further violence that will be splashed across the front pages and read in Paris."

France already has a major image problem because of the crisis in New Caledonia, its continued nuclear testing and for the 1985 bombing of the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour. On May 3, French troops in New Caledonia freed 23 hostages seized by Melanesian Kanak rebels in a raid that also killed 21 people.

Troublespots

In New Caledonia, the French have faced a powerful current of Melanesian nationalism — a force that has combined in many island territories with problems of poverty, overcrowding and unemployment.

Prof. Oskar Spate, emeritus professor at the Australian National University in Canberra, commented: "The real thing is that their economies are

too small to support all of the modern conveniences that they have come to expect."

The Sydney Morning Herald observed that "all these are turning the once tranquil South Pacific into an increasingly complex set of real and potential troublespots."

Racial and ethnic tensions remain a major underlying problem of many island nations, where populations are mainly Melanesian. The Fiji coup was aimed at keeping Melanesians in control of the country, which has a large and prosperous Indian population.

While Australia and New Zealand protested loudly over the Fiji coup, analysts noted there was little such reaction among other island states with Melanesian populations.

Said Ward: "Pacific island societies are village-based and clanistic. We find that young people these days are extremely virulent in their language, much more so than the older generation that we ushered into independence. There is no doubt about a growing Melanesian nationalism."

Ethnic problems have arisen in Australia and New Zealand themselves, which traditionally, along with the United States, have been the most powerful regular actors in the South Pacific.

In Australia, indigenous aborigines are using ongoing bicentennial celebrations to highlight grievances spawned by European settlement. In New Zealand, Maori nationalism is rising with a battery of land and fisheries claims against the Labour government of Prime Minister David Lange.

Many Pacific islanders have migrated to Australia and New Zealand in search of jobs.

Le Pen success fuels hopes of European extreme right

By Sydney Rubin

PARIS. (AP): The strong showing in French presidential elections of National Front Party leader Jean-Marie Le Pen has lent encouragement to others in Western Europe who share his nationalistic, anti-immigrant views.

After Le Pen won more than 14 per cent of the vote in presidential balloting on April 24, extreme right-wing parties in Belgium, Italy, Greece and elsewhere expressed hope that his success would be contagious.

Chrysanthos Dimitriadis, a member of the European Parliament and of Greece's extreme right National Political Union, told the Associated Press that Le Pen's gains "improved our spirit, there has been a positive change."

The Belgian National Front, a sister to the French party, "got hundreds of phone calls from people who wanted to join" after the April 24 vote, said party spokesman Daniel Peret.

"Basically we heard from people who share our ideas but thought we were a marginal party. Le Pen changed that," he said.

Undermines

Le Pen's campaign slogan "French first" conveyed the message that an influx of immigrants, mainly Arabs from North Africa, undermines the French way of life and adds to economic and social problems. His speeches tapped a vague, mostly unarticulated feeling that France is on the decline, its traditions in jeopardy and its "national identity" threatened.

He kept the immigration issue

at the centre of his campaign, suggesting legal measures to encourage immigrants in France to move elsewhere and limiting the number of immigrant children in schools. He appealed to nationalistic sentiments and authoritarian values, favouring restoration of the death penalty and quarantining AIDS victims.

Europe's extreme right parties, although diverse and lacking unity, share a common desire to convert concern about immigration into votes. Most countries face economic and social problems similar to those in France. Many of the parties in these countries are enjoying new success.

Gianfranco Fini, secretary of the vaguely neo-fascist Italian Social Movement, shares Le Pen's stance on immigration, saying immigrants pose a grave threat to all European countries.

Growth

Unemployment in Italy is 12.4 per cent while immigrants from Africa and Asia arrive at the rate of 50,000 a year. Although 90,000 foreigners were legally registered in October 1987, unofficial estimates put the number of illegal immigrants at 800,000.

Fini's party won 5.9 per cent of the vote in parliamentary elections last June. It holds 35 seats in the chamber of deputies, making it Italy's fourth largest party.

Although the party still is largely irrelevant — the non-communist parties can form a government without them — there are signs of growth in the kind of xenophobia that feeds Fini followers.

Italy's largest daily newspaper, La Repubblica, published a survey in early May of high school students that showed an "open hostility" toward

immigrants.

Seventy per cent of those responding said they would favour a partial or total closing of borders to foreigners who "rob us of work."

In France, an intellectual "new right" is providing a theoretical framework for neofascism. So-called revisionist historians are publishing works that re-examine the country under Nazi occupation and question whether the extermination of 6 million Jews during World War II actually occurred.

Reassessing

Le Pen referred to the gassing of Jews in Nazi death camps as "a detail of history."

Similarly in Italy, a spate of books and articles is reassessing the country's fascist past. A leading historian of Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini has suggested that "laws forbidding the re-establishment of the Fascist Party are anachronistic."

Le Pen visited Rome on May 8, taking his message to a cheering crowd at an ISM party meeting. He plans similar trips around Europe in the coming months, said his spokesman Alain Vizzier, who declined to provide details.

Whether or not he visits other parts of Europe, Le Pen's presence is felt.

Mogens Glistrup, leader of the Denmark's anti-immigration Progress Party is frequently referred to in the press as the local Le Pen.

In Danish parliamentary elections earlier this month, Glistrup's party took 16 seats, up from nine. It was the second big gain in a row for the party, which increased its holdings from six in another election last September.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1643 — Royalist plotters are arrested in London.
- 1793 — Reign of terror begins in French Revolution.
- 1850 — Universal suffrage in France is abolished.
- 1889 — Flood at Johnstown, Pennsylvania USA takes more than 2,000 lives.
- 1902 — Peace of Vereeniging ends Boer war, in which British casualties numbered 5,774 killed and 16,000 deaths from disease, against 4,000 Boers killed in action.
- 1910 — Union of South Africa is founded.
- 1924 — China recognises Soviet Union.
- 1937 — German fleet bombards Almeria, Spain, in reprisal for loyalist air attacks on its battleship Deutschland.
- 1954 — State of emergency is declared in Buganda, Uganda.
- 1961 — South Africa becomes independent republic outside British Commonwealth with C.R. Swart as president.
- 1962 — Adolf Eichman, World War II Nazi Gestapo chief, is executed by hanging after Israeli court rejects appeal.
- 1966 — Court in the Congo sentences former Premier Evariste Kimba and three others to death on charges of plotting to overthrow President Joseph Mobutu.
- 1970 — Earthquake hits Peru, leaving more than 66,000 dead, 20,000 missing and 200,000 injured.
- 1973 — US Senate votes to cut off all funds for US bombing operations in Cambodia.
- 1976 — Indonesia completes takeover of East Timor.
- 1987 — Commandos fight Israeli-backed militiamen in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone."

How to lose friends and influence people

by Keith Wells

SINCE the current theatrical season is almost over and I'm leaving Kuwait next month anyway, it seems like a good opportunity to say a few words about the gentle art of writing reviews. I was touched by Nadia Dabbagh's letter, in the Arab Times recently, chastising me for criticising her friend's performance in a recent ballet. I admired her loyalty and concern for her friend. However, when she wrote, 'Maybe there is some truth in Keith Wells' advice, but why does he have to publicise it?' The answer is simple. It's what I am paid and invited to do. Anyone who operates in the public eye must accept the vinegar of criticism along with the honey of praise. The critic's only duty is to try and be fair, not snide or personal.

sonal.

The argument that the performers are only amateurs is a spurious one. The School of Contemporary Dance, the Kuwait Players and all the other local dramatic societies are all profit-making concerns. True, the actors work for nothing, but when they charge three or four dinars (the price of a Wiz book!) they must expect to be treated as professionals. The Kuwait Players have tens of thousands of dinars, but they never bother to pay authors' royalties for their productions. People like Ken Winston have often been unhappy about my reviews, that's his privilege. I suppose many of us have an insatiable appetite for praise—applause can be very addictive and criticism hurts. Even if it's true, it hurts. I've had enough of it in my time to speak from

personal experience, but if it is true then it teaches the artist or performer a useful lesson about themselves, it helps us to improve.

Despite tremendous temptations at times, I have never used my reviews to make nasty personal attacks on people I don't like. However, if the public are being charged three dinars to listen to some deluded would-be star warbling off-key or hamming it up like a demented egotist, then it's the reviewer's duty to mention that the punters' money might be better spent on a couple of videos.

The other complaint I often get after a realistic review of a disastrous evening is that I should be more kind because so many people have voluntarily worked hard to try and make the evening a success. Does this mean that the critic should give

cosy reviews just because people have worked hard? Thousands of people would very hard indeed to make the Titanic's maiden voyage a success, but who would listen to the reviewer who wrote, 'Nice cruise, shame about the iceberg? Or the man who wrote about the Hindenberg, 'Beautiful flight, excellent cuisine and service, minor inferno did nothing to spoil our trip'?

Over the past decade I've reviewed scores of productions and the majority of them have been successful, like 'Antidote', and well worth seeing. Some are successful in amateur terms, others like KLT's recent 'Vic of Wakefield' have real professional polish. On the other hand there have been some real disasters, a production of 'Pirates of Penzance' springs,

or rather lurches, to mind. But whatever the merits or otherwise of the shows, my job has been selling newspapers, not theatre tickets. If the show is bad, it's my job to say so as frankly and fairly as I can. If I don't, nobody will believe me when I recommend a really first rate show.

My colleagues on the Arab Times who will be taking over the reviewer's job next season all share the sentiments I have tried to express. By and large, we all feel that amateur productions in Kuwait are very worthwhile, they are often highly entertaining and even the very worst of them at least provide a chance to socialise and meet old friends and acquaintances. On the whole, I've enjoyed covering the local theatres and I sincerely wish them well for the future.

Sham-e-Ghazal on Friday at local hotel

A shade better than the rest

TWO upcoming Indian ghazal singers — Talat Aziz and Sudha Malhotra — will perform at the Sham-e-Ghazal on June 3, Friday, at the Regency Palace Hotel.

The concert was earlier set for May 30 but had to be postponed due to unavoidable circumstances, said its organiser. Talat Aziz is said to be the "only ghazal singer with a glamorous image". Sporting designer jeans and T-shirts, the suave singer had to go westward to earn fame. In 1977, he completed studies and had been waiting for a break. The chance came when some friends suggested he go on a singing tour of Canada. A show called "The Sound of the East" launched him. In the years before that he had begun taking music "seriously", studying under Ustad Samad Khan, a disciple of the Kirana gharana.

Talat sings ghazals of well-known Urdu poets, both contemporary and traditional. Apparently, he is not happy with a trend to simplify ghazal



Talat Aziz: In search of fame

lyrics. In a recent interview he said: "I've no quarrel with that (simpler verse) as long as they maintain the purity and depth of thought distinguishing a ghazal from a geet."

However, Talat selects verse that can be understood by the man on the street "without sacrificing the subtlety of thought behind the lyrics". His favourite lyricist is Dr. Bhaishir Badani. His esoteric appeal has been, in some ways, a disadvantage for the artist. Talat was one of the first to come on the ghazal scene. However, Anup Jalota and Pankaj Udhas have overtaken him in popularity because only the "discerning listener can appreciate his music". He is known among ghazal singers as an "amalgam

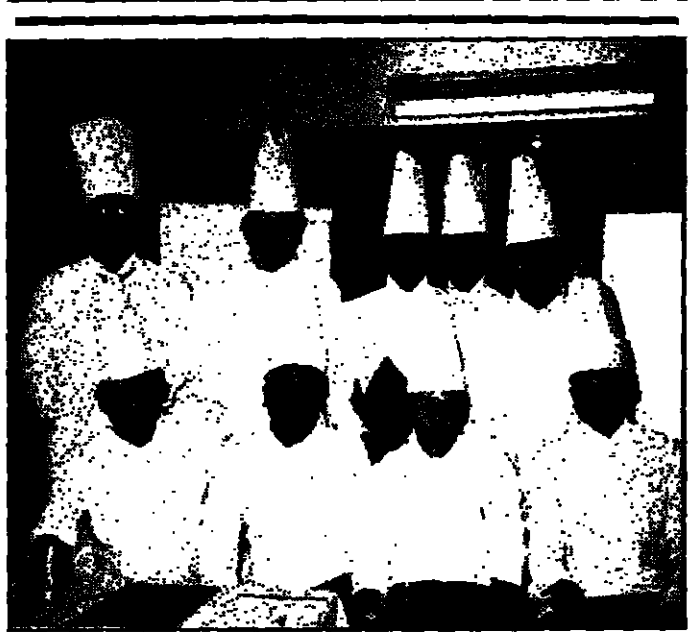
of Jagjit Singh and Mehdi Hassan.

Apart from audio-cassettes like A Touch of Talat Aziz, Talat Aziz Live, Images, Lehren, Ehasas and Saroor Sangeet, the ghazal singer recently launched Tassavur on video. Tassavur, a collection of 10 ghazals, features the actor singing ghazals linked by a story line. Video is a bigger thing for Talat, who is now planning to enter films.

Talat will sing ghazals with Sudha at the Kuwait concert. Sudha, who started singing at the tender age of 5 in Lahore, has now turned to ghazal and bhajan singing. Concert tours are her speciality and she has appeared in several in the US and the UK.



● The Bharathi Kalai Mandram recently held an education contest for children at the Indian Embassy auditorium. More than 50 children participated in the competition, divided into four groups. The winners, and others, received their prizes from Mrs Radika Doraiswamy, wife of the Kalai Mandram's president. Above and below: two contestants speaking about computers, toys and the places they visited.



● Kuwait Meridien Hotel's Executive Chef, Didier Cazes, recently conducted a basic cooking course for the hotel's kitchen staff. Above: Cazes is pictured with the trainees



Sudha Malhotra

Arab journalist wins poetry prize

A POEM penned by well-known Arab journalist, Haroun Hashem Rashied, has won unanimous approval from the judges of the BBC's poetry competition, held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its Arabic service.

Rashied, who is the Palestinian representative of the Tunis-based Arab Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and editor of the Arab Affairs Journal, was awarded £300 for his winning entry.

Second prize of £200 went to Dr Jamil 'Alloush of Amman, Jordan and third prize of £100 to Dr Mohammad Ateya Mazrou of the University Hospital in Zakazik, Egypt. The three winners will have their prizes presented locally by senior representatives of the BBC's

Arabic service. Competition judges, Said El Eissa and Buland El Haydari, both well known Arab poets, and Riad El-Rayyes, a London publisher, did not know the identities of the winning authors until after judging, as all entries were submitted under pen names. Rashied and Dr 'Alloush are both established poets and have had many of their verses published in Arab journals.

Nabil Iskander, senior producer, feature, with the BBC's Arabic service, said, "The competition attracted a large number of entries from all the Arab countries and a high proportion of entries from women poets. What surprised me, however, is the number of entries we received from bud-

ding Arab poets living as far afield as Germany, Turkey and the Cameroon, which was very gratifying."

"The standard of entry was reflected in the high number of poems shortlisted — twelve from the three competition categories," he said.

All categories related to broadcasting, with the most popular being 'The Ear Loves'. Many Arab poets took the opportunity in this category to send their congratulations in verse to the BBC's Arabic service on its 50th anniversary. The other categories were 'The Man of Tomorrow', from which the winning entry was chosen, and 'Our Small World'. The majority of entries were of traditional, rather than contemporary, style.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Boushahri Gallery
Watercolour paintings by Yugoslav artist Jovica Prodanovic is open at the Boushahri Gallery, Salem Al Mubarak St, Salmiya, from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.40 pm until June 9.

THEATRE

Bengali Cultural Society
The Society will present "Bichhan," a Hindi drama based on a story by Bengali novelist Mahasweta Devi, on June 2, 3 and June 9, 10, 7.30 pm, at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School. The play is part of celebration of the 40th Indian independence anniversary. For reservations contact 3903976; 3901806; 5621379.

Sounds Great

Sounds Great, a pop-rock musical, will be performed at Salmiya Cinema on June 10, 5pm and 8 pm. The show will feature Juke Box band with June Stevenson and Top Ranks with Adolf. Farewell appearance of Paul Fraser. Introducing Walid Al Nimer who will dance to Michael

Jackson's top hit "Bad". Produced and directed by Ken Winston. Tickets — KD.5. For reservations ring 5740256/7; 5516991; 5758870.

I Got Rhythm
A musical show featuring Reem Yousef Kelani will be presented in the Grand Ballroom, Regency Palace Hotel, on June 2, Thursday. Tickets — KD10 including dinner. Produced and directed by Glenis Muckle and Kerry Langley. All proceeds will be donated to the British charity Medical Aid for Palestinians to help Dr Pauline Cutting, OBE, and her team, to provide medical care for refugees. For reservations call 5718143; 5387755; 2627003; 5330934.

Kuwait Singers
"Songs for a Summer Evening" is the title of a concert by the Singers. It will be held on May 31 and June 1 at the UAS, Salwa. Tickets — KD 2. For reservations ring 3940770 ext. 57; 5384873; 5740627 (answering service).

KLT
KLT's musical Brigadoon opens with a gala performance on June 1, 7.30 pm. Further performances are at 5.30 pm on June 2, 3; and at 8.15 pm on June 7, 8 and 9. Tickets — KD.3. Children — KD.2. For reservations call 3983724.

CINEMA

Kuwait Cine Club
"Three Classic Evenings" is being held at the Kuwait Cine Club. The remaining programme is as follows:

TUESDAY: Do It Yourself Cartoon Kit (British, 6 min. Keith Lerner); Enter Hamlet (US, 1964, 4 min. Fred Mogub); Pappene (W. Germany, 11 min. L. Lotta Reiniger); The Fly (Yugoslav, 1966, 10 min. Alexander Marz); Bags (Polish, 1967, 9 min. Tadeusz Wilkosz); The Bespoke Overcoat (UK, 1955, 33 mins. Jack Clayton); The Stranger Left No Card (UK, 1953, 25 mins. D. Wendy Toye).

WEDNESDAY: Act Without Words (French, 1958, 10 min); D. Guido Bettio & Brune; The Stringbean (French, 5 min. D. Edouard Sechan); The Magician (Polish, 12 min. D. Tad. Makarczyński); Labyrinth (Polish, 14 min. D. Jan Leinica); Renaissance (French, 1963, 10 min. D. Walerian Borowicz); La Jetee (French, 1962, 30 mins. D. Chris Marker).

All films will be screened at 7.30 pm at the Kuwait Cine Club premises, Bneid Al Qar, 8 Sherif Al Radhi St. nr. Indian Embassy.

SOCIAL

Contact
The next meeting of the ladies information group, Contact, will be held on June 11, from 10 am, at the SAS Hotel. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. Tel. 3949807; 4874513; 5383999.

Players Ball
Kuwait Players "end of season ball" on Thursday, June 9, KD.7 per person. For details phone 5330934; 5613465; 5611546.

Kuwait Players
The Players will hold their social get-together on Wednesday, June 1. Tel: 5330934; 5613465.

NRI Meeting
The Non-Resident Indians (NRI) Annual General Meeting will be held at IAC, Funaites, on June 7, 7.45 pm. All NRI members and their wives are welcome. State Bank of India officials will give a talk on capital markets. A contributory dinner will follow.

Badesilk Re-union
The Bangladesh Diploma Engineers Society in Kuwait, Badesilk, will hold an Eid re-union and a cultural programme, with dinner, on Friday, June 10, at the Meridien's Banquet Hall, 6 pm.

All Bangladeshi diploma engineers can take part. Tel: Altafur Rahman — 9015166; Anwar Ali — 4571603.

SPORTS

PBAK General Meeting
The Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait, PBAK, will hold their second general meeting on Friday, June 3, at Mabuhay Restaurant at 5.30 pm. They will discuss the forthcoming men's and women's doubles, membership drive, bowling clinics and other activities. For details contact Sarah Macarimbang on 484-3447.

Second Annual Raft Race
The final captains' meeting of Kuwait's second annual raft race will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 6.30 pm in Messilah Beach Hotel. All team captains must attend. Final date for late entrants.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwailh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.25 Magazine D'Actualite
- 3.25 Cartoon, serial
- 4.25 Beet Al Tayi: Arabic serial, starring: Hussein Abu Sarah, Lina Al Tall, Rabeeh Shihab
- 5.30 Al Manahal: educational programme for children
- 6.00 In Public Service: You and Your Health
- 7.05 Afaq Al Fann: Art Horizon, hosted by Abdul Rasool Salman
- 7.35 The Animal World
- 8.00 Hadith Al Usbooh: weekly religious talk
- 8.15 Souk Al Ghaz: daily serial, featuring Noora, Salah Saadani, Khalid Zaki
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Hada Al Rajul (That is the Man): daily serial, starring: Noora, Salah Saadani, Khalid Zaki
- 10.50 Film Min Kitab: presented by Durriya Sharf Al Din, Suhail Ilyas.



There is more comedy with Neil Carter in Gimme A Break, KTV 2.

- 12.35 News Summary/World News via Satellite/ Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Pole Positions: cartoons
- 6.30 Pankey Brewster: "Christmas Shoplifting". Pankey is

caught stealing a doll from a shop...
7.00 The Natural World: "Elephant Challenge"
8.00 News in English
8.40 Leg Work: "The Best Couple 1 Know". The best couple the girl knows are not as perfect as they look.
9.30 Gimme a Break: "Below Sea Level". Part 2. Neil and Joey are in New York and the child is not happy to learn about his baby brother, Mathew.
10.00 Twilight Zone: two stories revolving around super-natural occurrences.
10.30 Feature film: "The Five of Me". Based on a true story of a young man who was tortured in childhood.
12.30 News Summary
12.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Soleil Moon Fry as Punkey Brewster, tonight on KTV 2.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- Tuesday Morning**
- 0800 Opening
- 0802 Songs and Music
- 0805 Thoughts in Islam
- 0830 News
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0850 Songs and Music
- 0930 They Sold a Million
- 1000 Our Prayers Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1100 Closedown
- 1330 News on FM Service
- Evening**
- 2100 Opening
- 2102 In the Latin Mood
- 2130 News
- 2145 Point of View
- 2155 Songs and Music
- 2200 On Islam
- 2215 In the Groove
- 2245 Daily Programme
- 2300 Hit Special
- 2330 Jazz in Action
- 2400 Closedown

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newswed
- 30 The Jewish (ex. 31st Music of the Royal Courts)
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Short Story
- 45 This Particular Place (ex. 3rd Journey Round My People)
- 0200 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Network UK
- 30 Sports International
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 John Peel
- 0400 Newswed
- 30 Rhythms of the Sun (ex. 31st A)

- Schubert Anthology
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Financial News
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 New Ideas
- 40 Turning Over New Leaves
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newswed
- 30 Counterpoint

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behar-e-Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Radio Club
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Jahan Numan
- 2100 Closedown

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1005 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Italian Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Music
- 0200 Closedown

PRAYERS

- Fajr 3.15 am
- Zuhr 11.45
- Asr 3.20 pm
- Maghreb 6.43
- Isha 8.13

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Sharkiya Pharmacy
Mawassat Bldg., Hilali St.
Hafez Pharmacy
Souk Wagef, Salah Al Din St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Rihab Pharmacy
Rihab Complex, Tunis St.
Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Razan Pharmacy
Fahad Hamad Al Khalid Bldg., Razi St.
Fahad and Ahmad
Abu Halifa Pharmacy
Coastal Road, Abu Halifa
Farwanah
Al Yamin Pharmacy
Jara Commercial Centre, Main St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New souk

CINEMA TODAY

- | | |
|--|---|
| Al Andalus
Last Shark
Starring: James Francisco,
Vicki Moro
Al Salmiya
Flashpoint
Starring: Kris Kristofferson,
Kevin
Al Hamra
Labyrinth
Starring: Jim Hanson,
George Luke
Drive-In
Al Jad'an Talatha (Arabic)
Starring: Samir Ghanem,
Roya Al Katib
Al Firdous
Kasam (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor,
Poonam Dhillon | Fahad Open-Air
Jurmans (Hindi)
Al Fahad
Tough Busters
Al Jahra
Awaz (Bengali)
Granada
Thovans Thumbikal
(Malayalam)
Salaikhat
Le Gendarme New York
(French)
Al Jeeb
Qurbani (Bengali)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Qaher Al Fursan (Arabic) |
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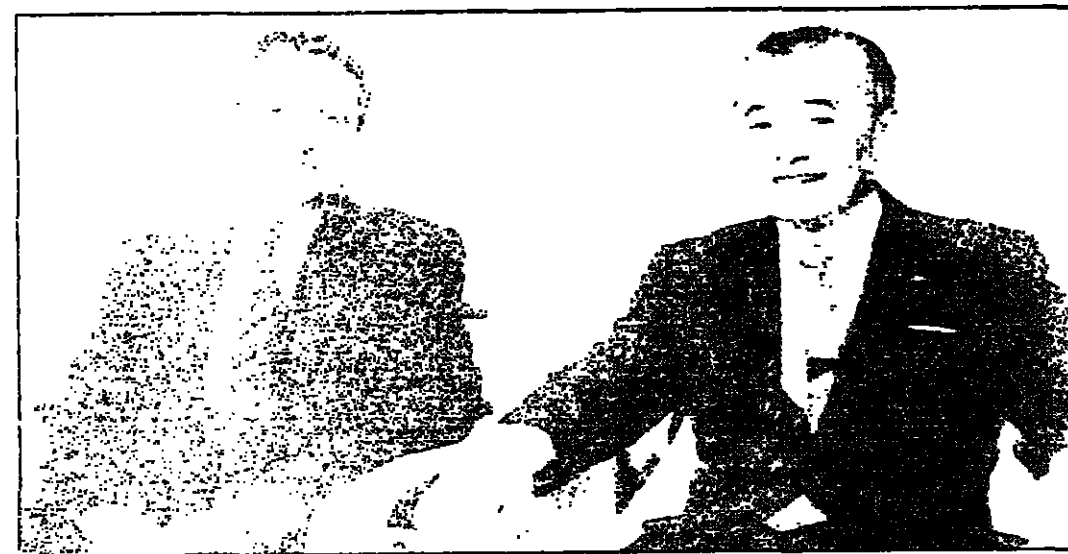
In occasione della Festa Nazionale, l'Ambasciatore d'Italia sarà lieto di ricevere i connazionali nella sua residenza
(Arabian Gulf Street, behind Zahra Complex) giovedì 2 giugno 1988 dalle 18 alle 20

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Light duty drivers
Heavy duty drivers
with transferable residence.
Please call on 3929514 between 8 am to 1 pm & 3.30 to 7 pm.

AL NOURI ENGLISH SCHOOL
FAHAHEEL
KINDERGARTEN
Applications are invited for September 1988 for this well-staffed and fully equipped department. Children should be at least 3 years old on 1.9.1988. Kindergarten timings 7.30 am to 11.30 am. If required, a minding service is available until 1 pm. Places are also available in the Infant and Junior departments. P.O. Box 46901, Fahadheel 54020 Fahadheel Tel: 3911039



THE SUMMIT: (Clockwise from left) US First Lady, Nancy Reagan, receives a kiss from a Soviet woman after visiting the grave of Boris Pasternak, author of the book Dr. Zhivago. Muscovites applaud US President and First Lady Nancy during a walkabout in Moscow's popular Arbat Street, and Irina, daughter of Soviet General-Secretary, Mikhail Gorbachev, listens to a rock concert. Schoolgirls wave US and Soviet flags to welcome Nancy Reagan to their school. Raisa Gorbachev signs a summit tee-shirt on the back of a Soviet security agent, and President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meet in the Kremlin for the second business session of the summit. At right is US Secretary of State, George Shultz. (Reuter wirephoto)



SYRIAN Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara (left) poses for photos with Prime Minister Takeshita at the latter's official residence yesterday upon arrival in Tokyo for a four-day visit. The foreign minister will exchange opinions on Mideast peace and bilateral relations between Syria and Japan with his Japanese counterparts. (Reuter wirephoto)



REBECCA QUIJANO, an eyewitness to Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino's assassination in August 1983, describes in a Manila court yesterday how she saw a soldier point a gun at Aquino's head and shoot him as he descended from an airplane on return from voluntary exile in the US. A retrial of 33 soldiers and four civilians for the murder is underway. (Reuter wirephoto)



POLICE examine the car which is believed to have been used to kidnap Conservative leader, Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, on Sunday. The car was destroyed by a bomb shortly after the kidnapping and police currently have no leads in the case. (Reuter wirephoto)



HANDCUFFED skinheads hide their faces as they arrive at the Rowen court (eastern France) on Sunday to be charged for violence and aggression. A group of 15 skinheads had attacked and wounded four people on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)



GUNMEN and civilians gather at the scene of a car bomb explosion in Christian east Beirut yesterday. The blast killed at least 15 people, wounded more than 82 and caused fires and heavy material damage to surrounding buildings and cars. (Reuter wirephoto)



DRESSED in mourning white, students bear the flag-draped coffin of classmate, Choi Dok-Su, who died after setting himself on fire to spark protests against the May 1980 Army crushing of a civilian uprising in Kwangju, in the southwestern part of Korea. The cortege was flanked by other Seoul students carrying banners bearing anti-government slogans. (Reuter wirephoto)

LEAVING Kuwait at the end of your stay can be a time of very mixed emotions. The joy of returning to friends and family at home can be offset by the hassle and upheaval of packing up, especially if you have been here for several years.

Worse still, your stuff may be very late in arriving, and in some cases might not even arrive at all. In Murgab there is a bankrupt freight forwarding company where people's possessions have been stranded for eighteen months!

Recently I went along to Alghani Freight to talk to Lesley Bell about how to minimise the stresses and strains of packing and shipping your household goods in order to make the whole operation go as smoothly as possible. The basic advice was simple, although it is remarkable how many people ignore it.

The thing to do is to plan carefully, co-ordinate the whole operation in a way that gives you and the shipping agents plenty of time to do the packing and fulfil all the necessary paperwork with the minimum of fuss.

Identify

The first step is to identify exactly what you want to send. Next, contact a reliable freight forwarder, and ask them to send someone round to give you a free consultation, which is known as a pre-survey. The representative will help you to decide important issues such as exactly what you are shipping, how it is going to be packed, any special requirements and so on.

After the pre-survey, the representative should be able to provide you with an estimate for various options such as Air-freight, Full Container Loads and Part Container Loads, door-to-door service, insurance and so on.

An important thing to remember here is that the cheapest company is not always the best. For example, they may quote you a very low price, but then you discover later that this doesn't include all kinds of essential charges like packing, customs' clearance or insurance. With a reputable company you should get a single, all-in charge that covers the entire operation. This may sound more expensive than the cheaper cowboys, but will work out far less expensive and more reliable in the end.

In any case, you should always pay a visit to the Freight forwarders premises before the packing date so that you can inspect their facilities, the skill of their packing staff and the quality of the materials they are using. April, May and June are the busiest months of the year for the shipping companies dealing with family removals, especially around the end of the school year.

In order to have plenty of time to get everything done without a mad last-minute rush, Lesley recommends that you contact the company about a month before you plan to leave. You might need even more time if you plan to send animals home, but I will deal with that in a later article.

Okay, you contact the shipping company and get them to come along and give you an estimate of how much stuff you have to send. The next step is to decide whether you want to send it all by air or sea. Naturally, the latter is cheaper, but only if you have over 250 kilos. Or if your stuff is especially bulky. Under that weight, air freight is very competitive and obviously much quicker.

Generally speaking, air freight will take between five and seven days no matter whether you're going to Europe, UK, the USA or the subcontinent. Of course, if you have your stuff delivered door to door this might take longer depending exactly where you live at home. Sea freight takes



Plan ahead, and give yourself, and the shippers plenty of time, and the whole operation should be painless and free of worry.

Packing up without trouble

If you're leaving Kuwait, Keith Wells advises on how to minimise the stresses and strains of packing and shipping your household goods and personal effects, including the pets

roughly 30 days to Europe, 42 days to the USA and 18 days to the subcontinent, plus between seven and ten days for customs' clearance and door to door delivery. These times are only approximate, but at least they will give you some idea of how long you will have to wait for your stuff to arrive at the other end.

Once you have decided how to send your stuff, you can then give the shippers a packing date. During the busy times of

the year, they cannot usually give you a precise time, just a.m. or p.m. and it is always better if you can arrange to be there when they come, to help oversee the operation. Reputable companies, will only use professional packers and always provide an English-speaking supervisor to make a packing list, answer your queries and generally ensure that the whole operation goes off without a hitch.

It isn't absolutely necessary

to put everything in one room, though naturally that can help, says Lesley. The main thing is to make all your decisions about what to take and what to leave behind before the packers come. It makes it very difficult if people keep changing their minds while the packers are trying to get on with the job.

Do not forget to check if your television or other electrical appliances can actually be used in your home country. Also try to be ruthless about what you

really want to send, magazines and books can be particularly heavy so have a jolly good sort out before the packers come. The pre-survey is the best time for this, but you must be honest and explicit about what you're sending. Don't be shy, professionals like Lesley are used to walking around people's homes and seeing what they plan to send, so the more explicit you are, the more accurate the quotation will be. Remember, nearly everybody

underestimates the amount of stuff they have so the professionals can give you a much better idea of the true weight and volume.

There are two types of insurance for your goods. Total Loss and All Risks. The former will only pay out if the entire consignment is lost, if the ship sinks or the plane crashes for example, and is not really worth having since this is unlikely to happen. All Risks insurance is more expensive but much better since it covers you against the loss or breakage of individual items. Insurance is not compulsory, but is obviously seriously recommended.

You should make sure that the selected agent uses special removals insurance companies who specialise in this types of risk. Again, if you use professional packers then you are very unlikely to suffer any breakages since they are highly experienced in packing things safely. However, for things like televisions, videos, computers or stereos it is a very good idea to keep the boxes and styrofoam packaging in which they came so that you can re-pack them safely. One last point about insurance, you should always insure things for their replacement value back home.

Sending things door-to-door is always easiest, and although you have to pay a bit extra, it is well worth it in terms of all the hassles you will save yourself by not having to go to the port to get things out of customs and so on.

Many people send their cars home, particularly up-market models which can be far more expensive in Britain or America. Again, you need professional advice, but at a rough estimate a twenty foot container will usually be big enough for a car and an average family's household goods. It is almost impossible to give an accurate price for such a container if only because war-risks insurance rates keep fluctuating as the situation changes in the Gulf.

Naturally, most people want to be able to use their stuff as long as possible and want to set the packing day as near to their departure as possible. This is fine, however, you have to realise that if you are sending a car, for example, it will take a couple of hours or so for the Traffic Department to do the necessary paperwork, which is then only

valid for 48 hours. Also, the container must be in the port for two days prior to departure. Take advice and plan it all carefully to avoid last minute problems. Most people find it easier to stay the last couple of nights in a local hotel, or rent a car for a day or two, so that their own car and household effects can be safely on their way without last-minute disasters.

It's not really possible to give an average cost of the whole operation since it depends on many variable factors such as where you plan to go, and exactly how much you are taking, or whether you are using air or sea freight. However, Lesley thinks an average couple take around 3 to 400 kilos, but if they have children it could be 500 kilos or more.

As a general rule, the longer you have been in Kuwait, the more loot and baggage you've probably acquired. With most major companies you can pay by credit card, which is very convenient, but do check to make sure that the company you are dealing with actually accepts the card you are planning to use in order to avoid last minute embarrassment.

Duties

Naturally, customs and import duties at the other end depend on which country you are heading for, but as a general rule household effects are usually exempt from taxes. In Britain though, you will have to pay duty on anything you have bought in the last six months, so if you go and buy a two thousand dollar silk carpet the week before you leave, be careful. It would be very wrong of me to suggest that you ask the seller to back date your receipt, wouldn't it? Anyway, the shipping agent will usually have a very good idea of the customs and import regulations for your home country and they will be happy to give you the necessary advice.

Before leaving Kuwait, the shipping company will give you the paperwork you need such as insurance certificates, an Air bill and a copy of the packing list. You should also make sure that you have a telephone number and address that you can contact if there is any unexpected delay. If you are ahead and give yourselves, and the shippers, plenty of time, then the whole operation should be painless and free of worry.

By Keith Wells

IF you are planning to take a pet home with you when you leave Kuwait there are several things you need to do, but the first thing is to contact the shipping agent or the airline about six weeks before you plan to leave in order to find out exactly what the regulations are for your home country.

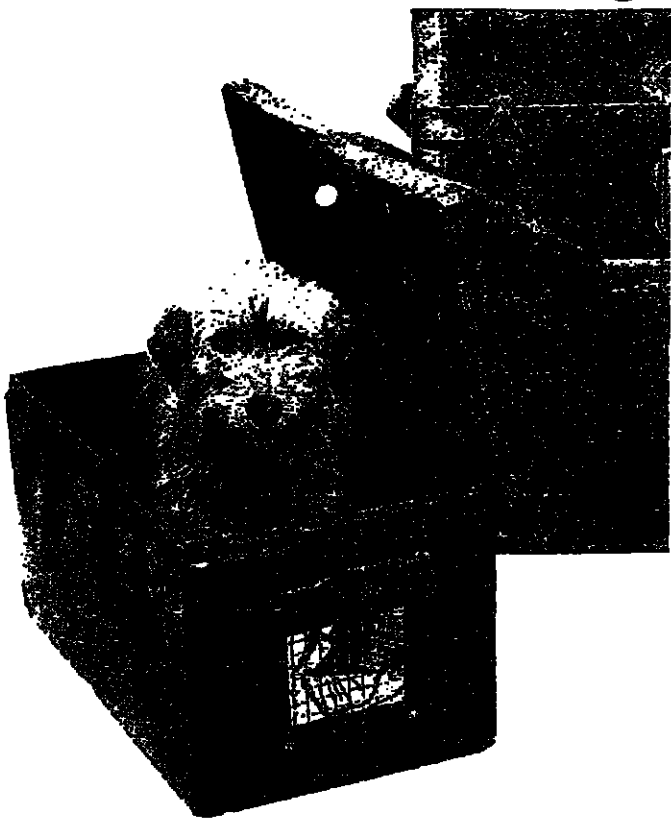
Most countries require some kind of vaccinations, against rabies or distemper for example, but requirements are so varied that it is impossible to list them all in this article.

In some American states incoming pets are required to spend up to three weeks in quarantine upon arrival, but in others this is not necessary. Therefore it is vital that you check with the airlines or shipping agents to find out exactly what the situation is.

However, certain rules do apply to all situations. First of all, animals must be fit and in good health or else the airline simply will not accept responsibility for them. They should not be more than six weeks pregnant or less than eight weeks old. In general, where rabies shots are required they must be administered not more than one year nor less than thirty days before the animal is due to travel.

Travelling boxes must conform to IATA rules, for example, the box must be large enough for the animal to stand

Flying cats and dogs



upright, turn around and lie down and there are strict rules about ventilation and so on, the airline will help you here and some local shipping companies will actually build a made-to-measure box for your pet. Do

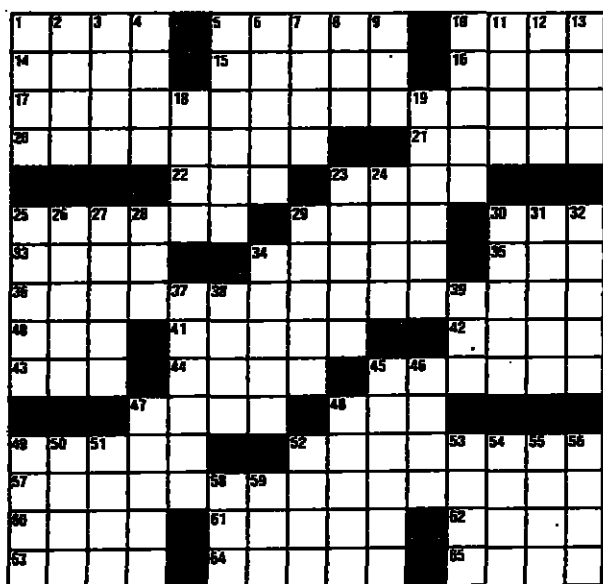
not try to make the box yourself since the rules are very stringent and failure to conform exactly may result in unnecessary delays and even an outright refusal to ship your animal at all.

For Britain, the rules are quite tough. All animals have to spend a six month period in quarantine at an approved kennels or cattery. First you must get a list of approved kennels from British Airways, then write to the kennel of your choice to make a booking, and get them to quote you a price for collecting the animal from the airport. When you have the booking confirmed, then you must write to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for an import licence before you can approach the airline to make a flight booking. Believe it or not, cats and dogs are also subject to 15 per cent VAT based on their 'value' at the time of importation.

To give you some idea of the price, it will cost you about 70 dinars to send a cat to the UK. For dogs the price depends upon the size of the animal, but roughly speaking, a small dog will cost about 150 dinars, Kuwait to London, up to 5 or 6 hundred dinars for a very large animal like a great Dane or German Shepherd.

A veterinary certificate is also required for most countries to say that the animal is in good health and also to record whatever vaccinations have been administered. All in all, it's a complicated business and one which requires careful planning so be sure to give yourself plenty of time by contacting the airline or shipping agent at least eight weeks before you plan to travel.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Frolic
 - 5 Triangle features
 - 10 Theda, the star
 - 14 Soprano Mills
 - 15 Patti LaBelle
 - 16 Driveway shape
 - 17 Lynn's sister
 - 20 Circus star
 - 21 Heads the alarm clock
 - 22 Printer's measures
 - 23 NT bk.
 - 25 Next to
 - 29 "And pretty much all in —"
 - 30 Camp asst.
 - 33 "— Wingrave"
 - 34 Word of farewell
 - 35 Hoosier humorist
 - 36 Otto's son
 - 40 Cholera
 - 41 Namesakes of Zhivago's beloved
 - 42 Recipe direction
 - 43 Road curve
 - 44 Yours, in Tours
 - 45 Container
 - 47 British gun
 - 48 Flightless bird
 - 49 Monumental stone
 - 52 Impermeable
 - 57 Ike's grandson
 - 60 Like the desert
 - 61 Pickling solution
 - 62 Stout's Wolfe
 - 63 Cabbage variety
 - 64 Ramay or Pishka
 - 65 Winty precipitation
- DOWN**
- 1 "Le —"
 - 2 Spoken
 - 3 Ore source
 - 4 Sound from the nest
 - 5 Opening word?
 - 6 Russian lads
 - 7 Gossip
 - 8 Printemps follower
 - 9 Dolorous
 - 10 — acid
 - 11 Gardner et al.
 - 12 Enthusiastic review
 - 13 Pub quaffs
 - 14 Mould
 - 15 Mature
 - 16 Zodiac sign
 - 17 Sonnet
 - 18 Actor-rock star
 - 19 David
 - 20 Wide-mouthed jugs
 - 21 Dry periods
 - 22 Vacationer's choice
 - 23 Statesman
 - 30 Proofreader's mark
 - 31 Perfect
 - 32 — Haute
 - 34 City south of Cleveland
 - 37 Joyful
 - 38 Appraise
 - 39 Superlative suffix
 - 45 Indonesian island
 - 46 Vow
 - 47 Playground item
 - 48 Expressions
 - 49 Neighbor of Nebr.
 - 50 Mitchell plantation
 - 51 Villainous
 - 52 Sale words
 - 53 Charged atoms
 - 54 Dancer
 - 55 Leading man
 - 56 Think, once
 - 58 Recade
 - 59 Savings acct.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

FEAR SLAMS STARS
LACE HALLE PITY
ARES AVAIL OMEO
TIMEWILLTELL
ECOLLES EMILE
ADORE RAISES
AGUES NAIVE MOP
REND NACRE MOVE
EDIT KITES BOKER
TAILOR SERENE
STINT MORAYS
TIMEHASWINGS
ABEL LIANA SALT
GIBE ADLER ELAN
SAYS SEEDS SECT

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

THE GLOOMY VIEW PAYS OFF

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A K 8 2
♥ A K 6
♦ J 10 7 4
♣ 6 2

EAST
♠ 7 6 4
♥ Q 8 2
♦ 9 5 3
♣ Q J 8 3

SOUTH
♠ 5 3
♥ J 10
♦ A K Q
♣ A K 10 9 7 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠
The person who first defined a pessimist as someone who spent some time with an optimist must have been a bridge player. Over the green baize, more often than not it pays to look at life through a glass, darkly. Then, if things turn out well, you can be pleasantly surprised. If they do not, it is not a shock for the system.

We like North's courageous bidding. South's jump to three clubs showed a hand worth something like 18 points and at least a good six-card suit. With 15 HCP, virtually all

prime, and a doubleton trump, North wasted no time in getting to what he felt was the optimum contract, although six no trump would have been equally viable.

How well declarer does at six clubs depends on whether he looks at life through rose-colored glasses or always carries an umbrella just in case. Those who believe that nothing can go wrong win the first trick and bang out the ace-king of clubs, then find they are down one when trumps break 4-1 and there was no singleton honor.

Those who believe in gloom and doom take a more careful approach to the hand. Since the contract hinges solely on losing no more than one trump trick, they set out to protect against that possibility while at the same time leaving open the option of making an overtrick should either defender hold the bare Q-J of trumps.

After winning the first spade trick they, too, lead a trump to the ace. At trick three, however, after only low clubs appear on the previous trick, they re-enter dummy with a heart, lead a trump and, when East follows low, they finesse the nine. If it loses, only one trump remains outstanding and it will be drawn with the king. But if trumps lie as they do, the "safety play" will have held the trump losers to one and the slam is safe.



"You the guy with a fly in his soup?"

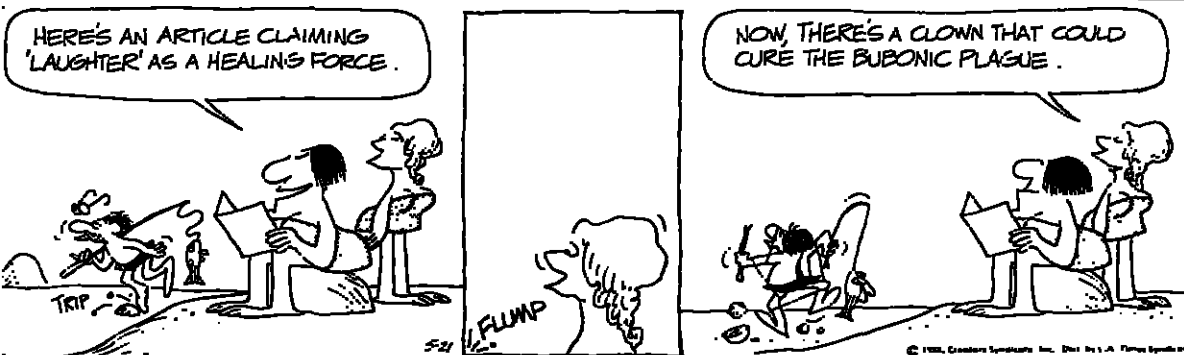
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have to make a few changes but you should think carefully first. Do your best to avoid conflict and tension. Do not underestimate the difficulties nor exaggerate them. Be a little more optimistic.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

The Moon's more favourable influence will tend to make life easier, but there is still need for care and caution. You will have something to be pleased about. Do not spend in the hope that you will have some good luck. Be sensible.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Do not think everything is either positive or negative, look at the degrees in between. You should not allow yourself to be so easily irritated. Make sure that your facts are up to date. Be flexible.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Steps must be taken to avoid confusion. Do not believe all you read, but do not be hypocritical either. You should take care to avoid too much concern with secondary matters. Be a little more patient.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should not try to do more than you have time or energy for. Make sure you stay on the right side of those you work with. Do not just hope for the best, help it to come about. Be less obstinate.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to maintain harmony. You will be able to overcome some obstacles both personal and at work.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Something you had been hoping might happen will not now do so. You should not pay too much attention to some trivial occurrence. You are more liable to lose things, so take extra care. Be reasonable.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should seek the opinion of others before you come to a conclusion. This is a good time to deal with a matter you have been hesitating to tackle. Something you have under way will make good progress. Be tactful.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

If you try to force yourself on others you will be repelled. There is no point in putting off something that you will have to do sooner or later. A friend or relative will appreciate hearing from you.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will be able to make some changes for the better. The planetary influences will help you to be more decisive. If you persevere you will succeed in learning something you have been finding difficult. Be more abstemious.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will find yourself on the right track and able to make good progress. It would be wrong to trust too much to intuition. A little more patience is what is needed just now; you will get there in the end.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You should try to restrain your impulses and to use a little more common-sense. You are all too liable to lose sight of your objectives. Make sure you do not blame others for what is your fault or vice versa.

Dear Junior Readers,

The summer is an excellent time to take up a hobby. Perhaps you have had times during your summer holiday when you just couldn't find anything to do. Even the most exciting game or toy can become boring after a while. A hobby is a collection or an activity in which you can learn and enjoy yourself at the same time. Collecting coins or stamps, knitting, cooking, reading, fishing, horse-jack riding, and bird watching are examples of things that Americans do in their spare time. Many hobbies are inexpensive. You can spend a few minutes a day doing something that interests you or you can devote hours at a time. The important thing is to have fun while you learn about something new. If your friends share your hobby, then you can admire each other's collections or even trade items. In many instances, you will make new friends who have the same hobby as you.

Aunt Barbara.

Happy birthday



Anil Rana celebrated his second birthday and his brother Zulqarnain celebrated his first on Thursday, May 26th. Best wishes, Rana and Zulqarnain, from your family and friends.



Jehan Ashkan celebrated her birthday on Sunday, May 29th. Best wishes, Jehan, from your family and friends.



Faisal Gulzar will celebrate his first birthday this month. Best wishes, Faisal, from your family and friends.

FLORIS had a problem. She couldn't make up her mind about things.

During playtime she could never decide whether to skip with Katie and Jo, or to play hospitals with Sophie and Sue. She always ended up doing nothing.

At weekends she was still in her pyjamas at lunchtime because she couldn't decide whether to wear a dress, or jeans and a sweater.

It drove her mother wild. In the evenings she would often sit and do nothing because she couldn't decide whether to read a book, do some sewing, or watch television.

It drove her father to quiet desperation. (Quiet, because he never said very much. He was the silent type.)

At last she did decide to watch television — and this did happen occasionally — she couldn't decide which programme to watch.

So she usually ended up looking at the blank screen.

At last Floris' mother had had enough.

"George, we must do something about that girl," she said. "She can't even decide whether she wants her egg poached or boiled this morning. Something has got to be done."

"Fry it," said George.

"No, I mean something has got to be done to help her make up her mind. We must take her to a specialist. Someone who knows about these things."

"Yes, dear," said George.

When she was told, Floris couldn't decide whether she liked the idea

or not. But her mother was determined.

She rang the family doctor. He was very helpful and gave her the name and address of the expert on such matters.

Alice wrote a long letter explaining Floris' problem to Mr McBride and sent it to his clinic in Harley Street, London, where all the best specialists work.

She had a polite letter back by return of post giving Floris an appointment that very Friday.

Floris had a day off school. George had a day off work, and they all went to London on the train.

Alice was very pleased with the decision she had made and said so a number of times. George was pleased too, but he said nothing.

Floris couldn't decide whether she was pleased or not. She couldn't decide whether or not to say anything about it either. So she just sat.

They were early and had an hour and a half to spend in the waiting room of Mr McBride's clinic.

George decided to read Punch, a humorous magazine for grown-ups.

Alice decided to read Vogue, a fashion magazine for ladies.

There were plenty of magazines and comics for children. Floris couldn't decide which one she wanted to read. She couldn't even decide which chair she wanted to sit on. So she stood and did nothing.

At exactly half-past eleven they were shown into Mr McBride's surgery. Alice almost laughed

Floris

when she saw the strange looking man sitting behind the large wooden desk. The long black hair trailing from his bald head looked like a grass skirt on an egg. He peered at them through thick, rimless glasses.

"Gud mornin'," he said in a rippling Scottish accent. "And which of you is Floris Daley?"

Floris couldn't decide whether to say, "It's me," or "It's me, Sir," so she said nothing at all.

Alice pushed her forward gently.

"This is Floris. She's our daughter," she said politely.

Mr McBride looked at the letter he had received from Alice.

"Weell now, I'm thinking this is going tae be a fairly simple case. Just a wee examination and a few wee questions first."

He got up from behind his desk and turned out to be little taller than Floris

herself. He looked most comical, for his white coat was too long and almost brushed the floor as he walked. He led Floris gently to a brown couch in the corner, lifted her onto it and asked her to lie back.

George sniggered to himself.

"Tell me, lassie," he said, "what dae ye want tae be when ye gae oot intae the worl'd?"

Alice leaned forward. "He means, 'what do you want to be when you grow up?' dear," she translated.

Floris pondered over the question.

As the strange little man helped her off the couch and led her to a chair she looked up at him and said thoughtfully, "I don't know, Sir. Sometimes I think I'll be a nurse. Sometimes I think I might be a hairdresser. And sometimes I think I'd like to be a film star. But most of the time I just don't know."

Mr McBride didn't look surprised. He said, "Aye, aye," tapped her knee with

a little rubber hammer and continued, "very normal."

Alice wondered whether he was referring to Floris' reply or to the fact that her daughter had kicked his glasses off as a result of his tap with the rubber hammer.

While Mr McBride was pumping up a sort of bicycle tyre he had wrapped round Floris' arm he turned confidentially to Alice and said, "Tell me, where did ye find the name Floris?"

"Another silly question," thought Alice. But she said politely, "Well, I didn't exactly find it. I sort of invented it. You see I couldn't decide between Florence and Doris ... the names of Floris' grannies, you know."

She smiled at the memory of her mother and George's mother standing together cooing over their little grandchild in her cot.

"In the end I made Floris out of the two names."

"Daft I always said," mumbled George, who had said more on this par-

ticular Friday than he had said on all the other Fridays of that month added together.

But Mr McBride was obviously pleased with Alice's answer to his question. "Just as I thought," he said, rubbing his hands together with delight.

"As I said earlier, a simple case, ye ken. If ye'll just change the lassie's name tae either Doris or Florence she'll know who she is and what she wants."

Floris couldn't decide whether she wanted to be a Florence or a Doris. But Alice quickly decided on Emma.

They walked into Oxford Street and Emma said she felt hungry.

"What do you fancy?" asked Alice.

"Steak and kidney pie, mashed potatoes, and peas, followed by apple pie and cream," said Emma without hesitation.

Alice was delighted.

George was astonished.

After lunch Alice said, "Shall we go to Paddington by bus or on the underground?"

"Underground," replied Emma immediately.

As they walked to Oxford Circus Station Emma declared firmly that now was the time to buy the new shoes she needed. They were in and out of the shop in four and a half minutes.

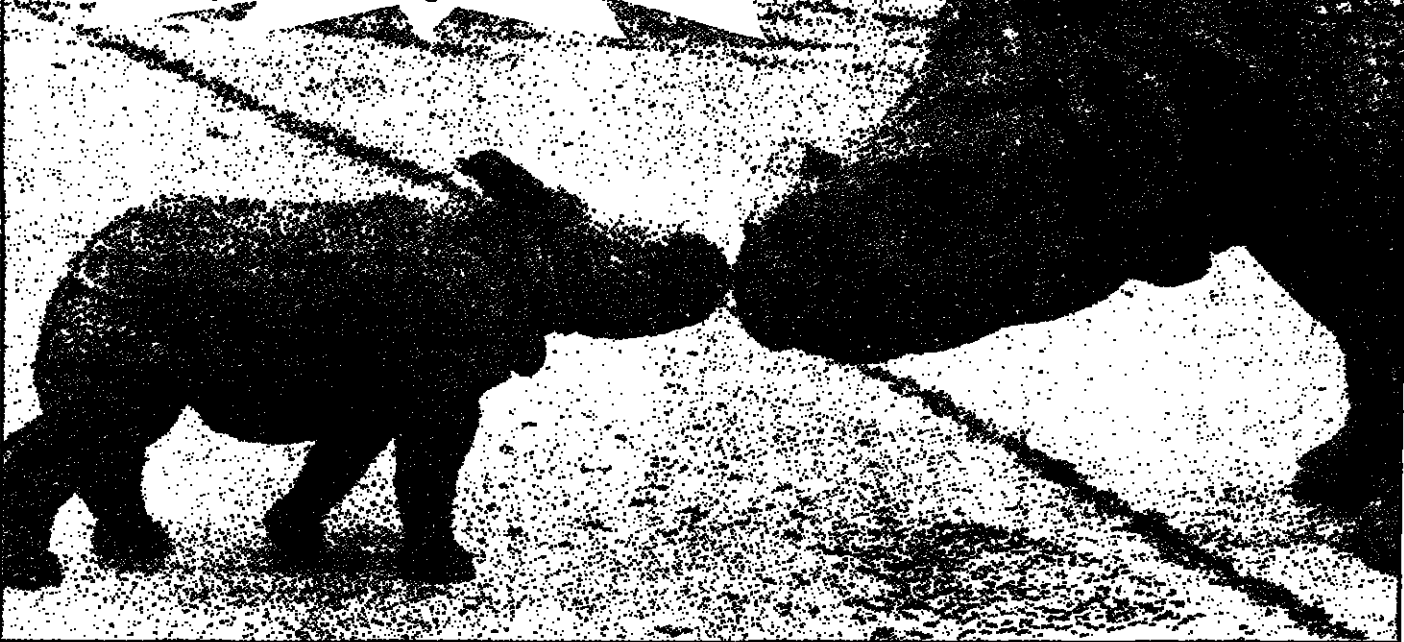
Emma happily gazed at the box containing her new red patent leather shoes. George gazed at his wallet and wondered whether he wouldn't have been better off keeping Floris.

I can't decide whether that's the end of the story or not.



Nose-rubbing rhinos

Two-ton Roopa, an Indian rhinoceros, gave birth to Ropen three weeks ago at Whipsnade Zoo in Bedfordshire. Roopa will feed her 100 pound baby for two years before weaning her.

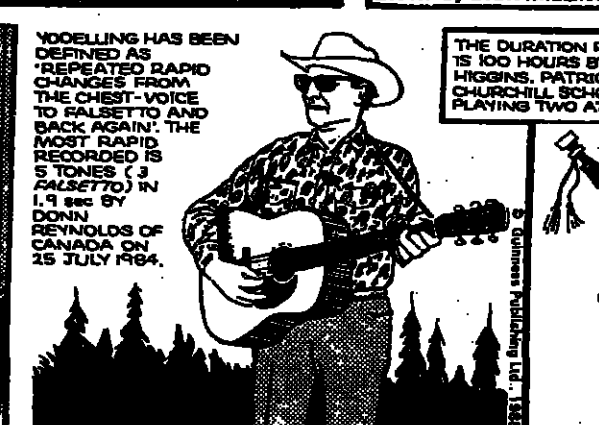
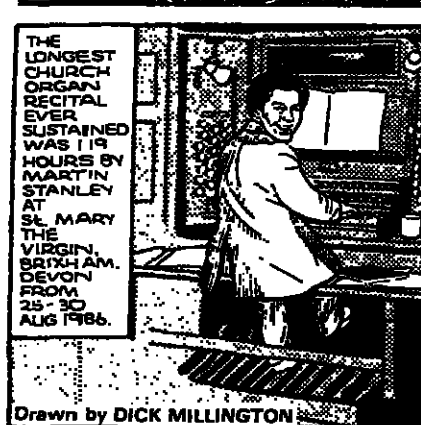
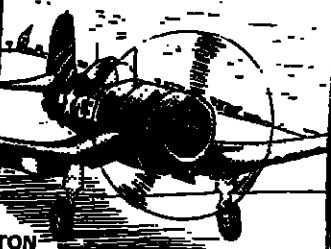
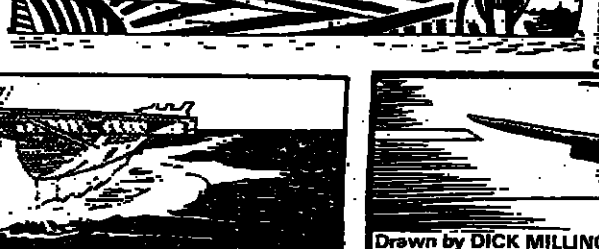


Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

THE WARSHIPS WITH THE LARGEST FULL LOAD DISPLACEMENT IN THE WORLD ARE THE NIMITZ CLASS US NAVY AIRCRAFT CARRIERS USS NIMITZ, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, CARL VINSON, THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN AT 81,485 TONS. THEY ARE 1091.6 (332.9m) IN LENGTH OVERALL (1824) OF FLIGHT DECK.

HMS ARGUS BECAME THE FIRST PROPER AIRCRAFT CARRIER, WITH A FLIGHT DECK EXTENDING THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE SHIP. LAID DOWN IN 1914 AS A LINER, SHE WAS COMMANDEERED BY THE ADMIRALTY AND COMPLETED AS 'AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER IN 1918'.

THE GREATEST NUMBER OF LANDINGS ON AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER IN ONE DAY WAS 622 ACHIEVED BY MARINE AIR GROUP 6 OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET AIR CORPS ABOARD THE USS MATANIKU ON 25 MAY 1945 BETWEEN 8am AND 5pm.



JUNE

This month once had only 26 days. Romulus, the founder and first king of Rome, then added four days. His successor, Pompilius, took one day away which was eventually re-instated by Julius Caesar. June is probably named after Juno, wife of Jupiter and goddess of marriage. There is certainly no doubt that June had a Roman festival on the first day of June.

According to superstition May has traditionally been regarded as a month of ill-omen for weddings. A June wedding on the other hand, augurs well for a happy marriage.

Born to fame

A good month for composers. June saw the birth of Robert Schumann, Jacques Offenbach, Edward Grieg, Charles Gounod, Igor Stravinsky and Cole Porter. Among practical men born in June were lighthouse and harbour builder John Smeaton, railway engineer George Stephenson, architect Frank Lloyd Wright and artists Diego Valesquez, Peter Paul Rubens and John Constable.

The discovery of the other North Pole
Although most people are familiar with expeditions to the geographical North Pole, they are probably less aware that equally important expeditions have been made to the Magnetic North Pole. The earliest of these was made by James Clark Ross, a British explorer, who reached the Magnetic North Pole on this day in 1831 in the position where it then lay, on the western shore of the Boothia Peninsula. Ross, later knighted by Queen Victoria, also explored a stretch of sea in the Antarctic which bears his name the Ross Sea and also Ross Island, the departure point for the 1955 Commonwealth trans-Antarctic expedition under the co-leadership of Sir Edmund Hillary.

How the ocean sunfish is made

The ocean sunfish was known in ancient times but the first fishermen who caught these animals thought they were mutilated. This is because the sunfish has a very large head and appears to have no body.

On closer examination it can be seen that the sunfish does, in fact, have a body even though the tail has practically disappeared and the tail and anal fins have grown together into one unit.

The sunfish is a large animal and can measure more than 3 metres in length. It is flat and round in shape and can weigh as much as 2 tons.

The how of animals

Despite its large size it is not an animal of prey, feeding on small fishes and boneless creatures. It has a small mouth and does not swim very well, preferring to drift along in a current.

The ocean sunfish belongs to the family Molidae and can often be seen sunning itself or resting in the surface waters of temperate or tropical seas. Like the remora it belongs to the class of Teleostei.

How beehives are organised

A large beehive can contain up to 80,000 bees but there is never any danger that such a vast number of insects will lead to confusion or chaos.

There is only one queen in a hive and her sole task is to keep on laying eggs. There are several hundred male bees, known as drones, who do no work except fertilise the eggs. But as soon as a new queen is born these drones are massacred by the worker bees who are all females, though incapable of laying eggs.

Bees suck the nectar from the flower through a special nose-tube and then carry it in a sack which contains up to 50 milligrams. The pollen is carried in two little baskets on the bee's hind legs. The worker bee delivers these



ingredients and other worker bees in the hive mix them together into a sort of paste which is fed to the larvae so that they will develop into adult insects.



Cricket, rugby and soccer

- Who scored the first century to be made in any England-Australia Test Match, and in what year?
- What is a Garryowen in Rugby?
- Which English Football League clubs have the following nicknames:
a) The Cottagers
b) The Posh
c) The Robins
d) The Saints

- In 1979 two counties, neither of which had ever won a major cricket competition before, both broke their ducks. Which counties were they, and what did each win?
- Can you give the difference between the number of players in a Rugby League team and a Rugby Union team?
- In the English Football League what are the four permitted colours for goalkeepers' jerseys?
- What is a Chinaman in cricket?
- In what match is the Calcutta Cup played for, and how did the Cup get its name?

Answers

- Dr. W.G. Grace, in 1880, at the Oval in the first Test ever played in England. He made 152, this being his first appearance for England, and the only occasion on which the three brothers Grace — E.M., W.G., and G.F. — all played together for England.
- An 'up-and-under' — a high kick intended to land at the same time as a pack of charging forwards arrive at the spot.
- a) Fulham
b) Peterborough
c) Charlton
d) Southampton
- Essex won the Schweppes County Championship and the Benson and Hedges Cup. Somerset won the Gillette Cup and the John Player League.
- Two. There are thirteen in a Rugby League team, fifteen in a Rugby Union team.
- Scarlet, royal blue, white and royal green.
- An off-break bowled by a left-arm bowler to a right-handed batsman.
- In the annual England and Scotland Rugby Union match. When the Calcutta Club in India was disbanded in 1878 the rupees remaining in its bank account were melted down and the metal used to make the Cup.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Nigeria urged to take serious look at non-oil exports

LAGOS, May 30, (Opecna): Nigeria has been urged to take a 'serious look' at its non-oil exports in a bid to free the country from 'over-dependence' on crude oil as a source of foreign exchange earnings.

Speaking at the opening of the sixth Lagos trade fair, State Governor Navy Capt. Mike Akhigbe also stressed the need for Nigeria to increase food production for domestic consumption.

He pointed out that 'the bane' of the country's poor economic situation was an over-dependence on crude oil exports for revenue to the detriment of the cultivation and processing of major export crops, which were equally lucrative.

Inventions
In 'exploring this new horizon', Akhigbe called on research organisations in Nigeria to make simple inventions and devices for use by small-scale industrialists.

He stressed that a variety of inventions remained unutilised either because of their complex nature or due to the large sums of money required for their adaptation.

It was not enough, he explained, to invent gadgets or new processing methods 'if the fruits of inventions are not readily utilisable by the entrepreneurs who ought to make use of them for the benefit of the industries in particular and the country at large'.

Plans
The governor noted that as part of government plans to enhance development of small-scale industries, an autonomous development finance company had been established to provide them with funds and financial services.

The company, he said, would commence business before June with a paid-up share capital of around \$2.50 million.

Akhigbe pointed out that the government was undertaking the venture because it realised that a 'viable and developed' small-scale industrial sector could help stabilise the national economy.

Group hopes to build interest in energy conservation

WASHINGTON, May 30, (AP): Several academic experts, consultants, governors, energy companies and advocacy organisations announced yesterday the formation of a new group that will try to restore the notion of an impending energy crisis to the nation's consciousness.

'Energy policy has fallen off the national agenda,' said one of the organisers of the group, Gov. George A. Sinner of North Dakota, even though 'polls indicate that national leaders and the American public are convinced there will be another energy crisis.'

The president of the new, Denver-based group, the American Energy Assurance Council, John Jenkins, said the group will try 'to grapple with conflicting solutions,' such as the conservation-at-any-price vision backed by some environmental organisations and the expand-production-everywhere solution of some oil companies.

'There is no set agenda,' said Michael Beatty, senior vice president and general counsel of Coastal Corp., a Houston-based oil and gas producer.

Donors pledge \$357m in aid to Togo

GENEVA, May 30, (Reuters): International donors pledged the equivalent of \$357 million in new grants and loans on Friday to Togo, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) said.

The funds, 103 billion CFA francs, will be used for a 1988-90 programme for the country to make structural adjustments to its economy, hit by low commodity prices.

The West African nation has a foreign debt of 330 billion francs (\$1.4 billion), representing 88 per cent of its gross national product, but most of the money pledged here was in grants or soft loans, the spokesman said.

It already had commitments for 145 billion francs (\$502 million) for its structural adjustment programme before the meeting, co-sponsored by UNDP and the World Bank.

The United States, France, Italy, Japan, West Germany, the European Economic Community, the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral institutions took part in the meeting, but the spokesman said he was unable to give a breakdown of the donations.

Germans dominate the import market

US auto makers step up sales in Japan

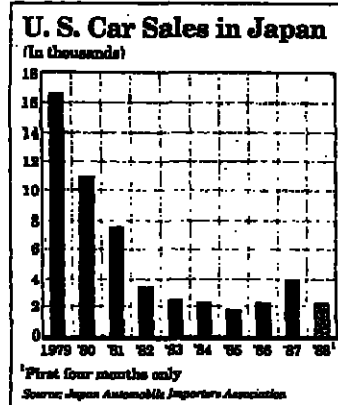
TOKYO, May 30: Believe it or not, US auto makers are selling more cars in Japan.

After a decade-long hibernation, Ford Motor Co., General Motors Corp. and Chrysler Corp. are waking up to the fact that affluent Japanese are buying more foreign cars. And as they bring in better-quality automobiles and expand their sales networks, the companies are starting to reverse the long decline that reduced their presence in Japan to an almost invisible niche in a booming market, according to the Wall Street Journal.

'We are strong in Europe, strong in Australia,' says Thomas P. Shanahan, Asia-Pacific regional manager of Ford International's export sales. 'It was time to re-enter Japan.'

To be sure, the US inroads are weak, tentative and years behind European marketing moves by European auto makers. Indeed, foreign cars account for only 3.8 per cent of the total Japanese market, or fewer than 100,000 vehicles annually. The Europeans, most notably Bayerische Motoren Werke AG, began to benefit three years ago from an unprecedented demand by Japanese consumers for imports. Sales of West German autos are up 125 per cent since 1979, while US makers' sales are off 76 per cent in that period, despite the recent growth.

Last year, 74,289 German cars were sold here, up almost three-



fold from 24,945 in 1981. Sales, at current rates, could double this year. Moreover, BMW, Daimler-Benz AG and Volkswagen AG's Audi are outselling Japanese cars of the same class by 3 to 1.

How did they do it? It started with BMW in the mid-1980s when, after buying its own dealer network and expanding it, the German company advertised heavily, set up a service and parts system and lowered interest rates on new cars to single digits when consumer interest rates were about 15 per cent. (BMW's rates now are at 5 per cent.)

Daimler-Benz's Mercedes unit reacted. Dissatisfied with the efforts of Yanase & Co., which distributed its cars along with those of Volkswagen and GM, it worked out an agreement with Mitsubishi Motor Co. to sell Mercedes in some of its

showrooms. Suddenly rejuvenated, Yanase, the biggest foreign car network in Japan, now is setting up special dealerships for Mercedes. Mercedes now expects annual sales in Japan to go from slightly less than 20,000 last year to more than 40,000 in 1990.

Japanese newspapers report rumors that Audi, which sells about 8,700 cars here, is trying to ape Mercedes with an arrangement with Toyota Motor Co., which has the most extensive and powerful dealer network in Japan. Both companies deny the reports.

Efforts
None of the three leading US auto makers thinks it can overtake the West Germans. But the three companies say their efforts aren't too late to catch at least part of the consumer boom and build a foundation for steady, though slow, sales growth.

Although sales of US cars probably will double this year, the increase is from such a low base — 4,006 US cars were purchased in Japan last year — that no one is breaking out the champagne. The US share of the imported-car market currently is 6.2 per cent, down from 27.8 per cent in 1979.

Critics say the US companies aren't trying hard enough and could boost sales by slashing prices to take advantage of the strong yen and by spending more to build up dealer networks. The Japanese still have a soft spot for

the American car, interviews with consumers confirm, but hesitate to take the plunge, fearing servicing and repair difficulties.

US car makers retort that they are making a determined but long-term effort to increase their presence in Japan. 'We intend to move very carefully initially,' says Shanahan of Ford, the most active of the three largest US auto makers. 'Volume isn't our primary goal in the short term.'

Ford, which wistfully remembers its dominance of the import market before World War II, arranged last year for a 200-dealer network to handle its cars. Exploiting the Japanese fascination for any product that is highly popular in the US, it has made a big hit with its Taurus model, even with a price tag of more than \$36,000. (Even so, its new dealers need educating. At two showrooms, salesmen were befuddled when asked how a Taurus was better than the competition. 'It is safer in a collision,' was the only answer they could come up with after much thought.)

The company expects to sell at least 3,000 US-made Fords this year and is aiming for 5,000, almost six times last year's figure. At the least, Shanahan wants to overtake GM sales, which this year are expected to total 5,000 by 1993.

In some ways, Chrysler is trying to copy Ford's strategy, but it is almost two years behind.

Chrysler says it will swing into action later this year or in early 1989. 'It won't be a big splash', concedes Matthew J. Zak, managing director of Chrysler's Japan operations.

For now, the company is searching for a large dealer network to replace the handful of outlets that last year sold 300 vehicles, half of them jeeps, convertibles and minivans that have no serious competition from Japanese companies. It probably won't use Mitsubishi Motors, of which it owns 24 per cent, as a distributor — Daimler-Benz got there first.

Activity
Even though it is selling more than other US makers, GM shows the fewest signs of activity. A company official says selling cars isn't GM's fundamental reason for being in Japan; instead, the company's chief goals are to buy and sell parts and maintain a relationship with foreign affiliates. GM says it will continue to sell cars through the long-established Yanase network, even though the salesmen there pay scant attention to GM cars, instead favouring the German models they also distribute.

GM's Japanese affiliates, Suzuki Motor Co. and Isuzu Motors Ltd., will begin to sell some of GM's US-made and German-made models. But even in this case, GM showed a curious passivity; it was the Japanese who approached the US company.

Moscow eyes possibility of ending state planning

MOSCOW, May 30, (Reuters): Soviet leaders have discussed the possibility of getting rid of state planning altogether in efforts to accelerate economic reform, Pravda said today.

The Communist Party newspaper in a startlingly candid review of the pros and cons of the state-run economy, said that Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov and his deputies had ordered measures to trim the powers of the planning bureaucracy.

But, although the centralised planning system created by Josef Stalin remained seriously distorted and Kremlin economic reforms had got off to a rocky start, they had decided against doing away entirely with state control over production.

'Some economists propose giving production collectives (factories) full autonomy,'

Pravda said in a report on a meeting of the government's presidium. The body groups Ryzhkov and a dozen deputies, including the state planning chief.

'This point of view was expressed at the meeting of the presidium. Speaking openly, they were talking in essence about the liquidation of centralised management and planning.'

Production
Pravda said the issue came up in a discussion of 'state orders' — production requirements handed down from above to firms now meant to pay their own way without state help.

Sixty per cent of Soviet industry began operating on this basis from January 1 under a new law designed to give factories more

autonomy in tailoring their production to market demand. In practice, Pravda said, ministries were obliging many firms to devote their entire production capacity to filling state orders without providing them with the necessary materials and, often, forcing them to turn out unneeded goods.

System
Ryzhkov said this had to stop. He ordered that new instructions be drafted to limit the rights of central organs to issue state orders over the next two years.

Pravda said proponents of an end to centralised planning had argued that the failure of the Soviet economy to meet consumer demand made capitalism look good in comparison.

But it said rejecting the system as a whole would amount to 'throwing out the baby with the

bath water.'

The problem, it said, was the excessive zeal of planners who swamped firms with orders for more than 24 million items. It said 170 key state industries had failed to meet output targets for the past 20 years, setting off a chain reaction as other firms failed to get the materials they needed. This 'planning anarchy' cost billions of roubles a year, it said.

Problem
The answer, Pravda said, was to restrict state planning to a few hundred major items and allow industry to decide what else to produce for itself on the basis of consumer demand. The problem of 'state orders' and centralised planning had emerged as an issue of public concern in recent weeks as firms affected by the January 1 reform

struggle to make ends meet. 'We ourselves wrote into the law that a state order is a directive. So when an unprofitable assignment is now forced on a firm, it cannot raise objections,' a steelworker wrote in the outspoken weekly Moscow News last week.

He said some firms had taken legal action against the crippling requirements, with no success to date, and workers at his Moscow factory were beginning to complain about unfair treatment of the state sector compared to cooperatives.

His comments were published as the Supreme Soviet (parliament) was adopting a law to give cooperative businesses full equality with the state sector from July 1, with no ceilings on the income of budding cooperative entrepreneurs.

Investors see US trade results as sign of rise in interest, prices

NEW YORK, May 30: When the government's report on the March US trade deficit came across new wires last week, there was cheering among traders at some of Wall Street's big brokerage houses. Visions of a rally of 50 points or more danced in their heads, according to the Wall Street Journal.

But they didn't realise yet how worried investors had become about inflation and higher interest rates. Reading the trade report as a sign that inflation will be heating up and higher interest rates are likely, investors drove the Dow Jones Industrial Average down 21.22 points on Tuesday and 35.32 points on Wednesday.

Now, many analysts say the overall trend will be for stock prices to keep falling and that the only question is how far.

'Another hundred points or so,' says Ralph Acampora, a market analyst for Kidder, Peabody & Co. Acampora says his technical analysis shows that investors are in the second of three phases that bear markets go through before reversing themselves. First comes complacency, when investors are caught by surprise by a market reversal. Then price by a market reversal. Then comes concern, the current phase, when investors waffle, not rushing to sell or to buy. That is followed by capitulation, marked by heavy selling as frigh-

tened investors finally bail out of stocks.

'There's got to be further pain before any gain,' Acampora says. He hopes that the big selling wave comes in the next few weeks and takes the industrial average down to between 1800 and 1850. 'Then maybe, just maybe, we could have the ingredients for a summer rally,' he says.

Charles Eaton, a market strategist for Nikko Securities, is looking for a sudden, swift drop, too. The idea, he says, is to get the nervous investors out of the way so that any subsequent rallies won't be stalled by profit-takers, and market psychology might become more upbeat.

Forecast
'Clearly the market is in trouble,' he says. 'The frustration everyone has is that they can't flush out all the sellers. What we worry about most is that we'll hit some kind of low, then have a lousy rally. The lower the market goes, the better the rally will probably be.'

If that's true, Eaton will love Arnold Kaufman's forecast. Kaufman, editor of Standard & Poor's Outlook, says the current decline in stock prices isn't likely to end until there is tangible evidence that the economy isn't too strong or until stock prices hit a level low enough to attract buyers. That level? 'About 1700

on the Dow later this year,' Kaufman says.

'The market is having kind of an anxiety attack,' he says. 'There's no evidence we have stronger inflation, but the psychology is so poor that investors can't even handle the perception of higher inflation.'

He says that to get investor psychology turned around, the market will have to test its Oct 19 low of 1738.74. 'If that holds up, we could get a decent rally,' he says, and the nature of that rally could determine whether the bear market is over.

'What we'd like to see is a buildup in volume on any rally,' he says. 'Bull markets begin on heavy volume, and that means 250 million shares a day for several days in a row.'

Michael Metz, a strategist at Oppenheimer & Co., says the turnaround could come as early as this week. But he says it will start 'with a whimper, not a bang.' Metz says he believes almost everyone who wanted to get out of stocks is out, eliminating the possibility of a further sharp fall in prices. 'My feeling is that the turnaround is going to sneak up on us and that we're just about there,' he says.

Jon Groveman, head of equity trading at Ladenburg Thalmann, says there's too much talk about psychology and about bulls and bears.

Innovative marketing seminar

SENIOR officials of the Kuwait Finance House, Citibank and UWINC SA, an international consulting group specialised in marketing and corporate strategy programmes for senior management, jointly organised a seminar on marketing strategy at Kuwait's SAS Hotel last week.

'The overall objective of the seminar was to establish marketing as a dominant business attitude and to develop a systematic marketing strategy process for the Kuwait Finance House,' says German-born Dr Ulrich E. Wiechmann, president of UWINC S.A. and a former Harvard Business School professor. To reach this objective, the seminar was used as an innovative combination of learning methods: case studies, workshops on current marketing issues facing the Kuwait Finance



Bader Al Mukhalzeem, the managing director of KFH addresses the seminar

House, and Midas, a sophisticated marketing simulation exercise, in which teams of participants manage the marketing function of a company in a rapidly changing and highly competitive environment.

Investment in Gulf increasing

ABU DHABI, May 30, (Opecna): A Gulf financial institution has forecast an increase in investment by private local and foreign investors in the six countries which form the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) as part of a new pattern emerging in the region.

A report by the Bahrain-based Gulf International Bank said the beneficiaries would be those foreign investors who viewed the potential available in the Gulf from a long-term perspective.

The bank said a new development strategy had been unfolded

ing in the Gulf with the main emphasis on industrialisation and economic diversification.

It said public sector-led growth and over-dependence on oil was giving way to private sector initiatives and a diversified production base.

Market
The bank said foreign companies involved in trading in the Gulf were beginning to realise that 'the best way for them to maintain and possibly expand their share of the market is to establish a presence in the region.'

World Business Summary

Opec continues price stability search

QUITO, Ecuador, May 30, (AP): The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries is continuing talks with non-member oil producers in an effort to stabilise the price of crude, according to Energy Minister Fernando Santos. The discussions are focused on production levels necessary to maintain the world price for crude at \$18 a barrel, Santos told Congress on Thursday. Proposals of non-member producing nations to join Opec in a general production cut will be considered at an Opec meeting on June 8, he said. 'Opec is determined to re-establish market equilibrium,' Santos said, while acknowledging the organisation's failure at its April meeting to reach a production quota accord. He said an oil output reduction should be moderate. 'If we cut too much we will provoke a crunch and the price will rise spectacularly. This is not our objective,' he said.

Crude oil prices lost some of the gains seen late on Thursday in the United States, but business remained wary prior to a meeting by the Opec producers' group.

Arab Fund loans for three African countries

THE Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development is to extend \$105.50 million in loans to three African countries — Tunisia, Sudan and Djibouti — for development projects. Tunisia will receive \$20 million to finance an irrigation scheme, expected to be completed in 1991, to boost agricultural output in the Kairawan plains area through better use of available water resources. The loan, which carries an annual interest rate of 4.5 per cent and is repayable in 22 years, including a five-year grace period, brings total fund assistance to Tunisia since 1972 to \$260 million.

Sudan is to receive \$83.92 million in three loans. The first (\$36.50 million) is for the extension of a water supply system to Port Sudan on the Red Sea, while the second (\$31 million) is for the national power network to enable it to meet growing domestic demand and to offset power shortages in the capital. The third (\$16.42 million) will go towards the rehabilitation of cotton spinning and weaving factories and will help boost the production capacity of the textile sector. The \$1.50 million loan to Djibouti will improve communications in the country. All agreements were signed here for the fund by director Abdelatif Youssef Al Hamad and representatives of recipient countries.

Banks urged to introduce new saving schemes

THE chairman and managing director of Borgan Bank, Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al Sabah, in an interview with a local daily exhorted the banks to attract more funds by introducing new saving schemes, besides the traditional deposits.

He said that these funds should be diverted to new investment fields by providing facilities to 'cover' the economic sectors, particularly productive centres. He also urged bankers to assist debtors crippled during the last 'manakhi crisis' so as to allow them to resume their activities and rejuvenate the stock market. Sheikh Ahmed said that the Kuwaiti economy had proved its soundness by surmounting the obstacles created by the crisis and commending the State for its positive role and constructive efforts in resolving the issues. The chairman said that the difficult and complicated 'debt problem' had been settled and normal activity had resumed. Bankers, he said, should follow up the activities of their debtors, who had benefitted from the facilities extended, as the success of such a follow up would assure reactivation of the national economy. Sheikh Ahmed called on the banking sector to participate in joint loans to be made available to distinguished international borrowers. He further urged banks to invest their funds in the securities markets and government bonds issued by countries having strong financial standing and political systems — such a move, he said, would contribute in no small measure towards activating the capital markets. He concluded by stating that banks should participate in the financing of joint projects where feasibility studies had proved viable — particularly, where such projects represented economic integration between Kuwait and the countries where these projects were to be implemented.

Business dwindles following Yugoslav price hikes

BELGRADE, May 30, (Reuters): Business dwindled throughout Yugoslavia today as people refused to buy following huge price rises announced by the government. Yugoslavs avoided shops and restaurants, tightening their belts after the government launched an economic austerity programme by freeing most prices from controls and devaluing the dinar by 23.9 per cent. The government raised petrol prices by 32 per cent, train fares 38 per cent, electricity 31 per cent, coal 30 per cent and postal services 26 per cent. 'Prices as an electric shock,' screamed the headline in the Belgrade newspaper Borna. Milan Sofic, director of the Federal Price Institute, was quoted in today's newspapers as saying the price increases would add at least 12 points in June to the country's 152 per cent inflation. 'Price rises are a terrible blow to all of us with small salaries or pensions,' pensioner Milka Markovic told Politika newspaper. She said she just could not make ends meet. Politika said sales in some Belgrade stores tumbled 50 per cent on Saturday. Bored staff stood idle by watching television for want of customers to serve. Austerity was even hitting Belgrade's McDonald's hamburger firm, half empty today although it set a world record for turnover in the first few weeks after it opened in March. The austerity programme, drafted under guidance of Western creditors in return for fresh loans to pave the way for structural reforms, abolished controls on 60 per cent of prices.

Wage controls were introduced on May 15, triggering a wave of strikes. Officials said 50 per cent of Yugoslav firms were expected to take wage cuts in May and June because their pay rises so far this year had exceeded the limits of the austerity programme.

Western trade union group lashes investors in apartheid

BRUSSELS, May 30, (Reuters): The West's largest trade union grouping accused more than 1,200 firms worldwide today of 'investing in apartheid' through subsidiaries in South Africa. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), which favours tighter economic sanctions against Pretoria, attacked the argument that companies with investment in South Africa could help push for reform of apartheid. 'These companies should stop trying to delude themselves and their shareholders. Cheap labour is what brings them to South Africa, not a desire to restore social justice,' ICFTU general secretary John Vanderreken said. Out of a total 1,267 companies with investments in South Africa, 374 were from Britain, 333 from West Germany and 164 from the United States, the ICFTU said. The next highest figures were for Japan, with 103 firms, France, with 90, and Switzerland with 54. Vanderreken said: 'The country's eventual democratic rulers are not likely to forget those who profited from their oppression.' The ICFTU accused some companies of retaining substantial interests in South Africa despite claiming to have pulled out. The ICFTU groups 141 national trade union centres in 97 countries and says that it represents 87 million workers.

Houston dismantles the boom years, say experts

HOUSTON, Texas, May 30, (Reuters): When oil prices went through the roof in the late 1970s and early 1980s, Houston property developers built flats — and filled them up — at a dizzying pace.

People from all over the United States flooded the city to fill jobs created by upwardly bound oil companies. Streets were congested, unemployment was negligible and places to live were at a premium.

Now that oil — and, as a result, the Houston economy — has come back to earth, many of the city's flats are being torn down because there are no tenants to live in them.

'The boom is, in effect, being dismantled,' said Patrick O'Connor, property analyst and editor of the monthly publication Houston Real Estate Trends.

Demolition
While all types of Houston property suffer from overbuilt markets, flats are the first to face massive demolition.

According to O'Connor, the phenomenon began in 1986 and picked up steam last year. Now, troubled blocks of flats are being bulldozed at a rate of about 5,000 units a year, he said, because owners of half-empty complexes are finding it cheaper to get rid of them than keep them open.

'It's unbelievable, but in the nation's fourth largest city the imbalance between supply and demand is that bad,' he said.

Occupancy rates have dropped from an astonishing 99.5 per cent in 1981 to an average of 75 per cent, O'Connor said. In many complexes, only 30 to 35 per cent of the flats have tenants, he told Reuters in a recent interview.

'Although it's hard to imagine now, there was a time when it was hard to find an apartment in Houston,' he said.

The current surplus of flats is the result of severe overbuilding and population loss.

During the oil boom,

developers were caught up in a tidal wave of optimism which engulfed Houston. Oil industry analysts were predicting oil prices could reach \$100 a barrel because demand seemed to be outracing a limited world supply of petroleum.

Projects
Those predictions led financial institutions to lend freely on property development projects that had customers waiting in line for space. Flats, not tenants, were in short supply.

From 1976 to 1985, the number of flats in the city more than doubled, from 202,000 to 410,000, O'Connor said.

But when oil prices started sinking in the 1980s, energy-related layoffs followed. According to the Houston Economic Development Council, the city has lost 200,000 jobs, — down to about 365,000, since 1982. When people could not find work, they went elsewhere.

'There just aren't as many people here as there were when times were good,' said Ron Dokell, executive vice president of Olshan Demolishing Company, one of the few firms to benefit from the exodus.

Developers really got into trouble when, even as oil prices began to weaken, they continued to build, according to O'Connor.

BUSINESS

D deposit rates steady in quiet trading

UWAITI dinar deposit rates were mostly steady yesterday in quiet trading subdued by market holidays in Britain, Singapore and the United States.

Dealers said bidding interest merged in the spot and one-week periods as banks sought to purchase the US dollar, which surged on international markets on speculation about higher US interest rates.

Banks also needed dinars for a three-month Treasury bill issue on Wednesday for KD 100 million.

Overnight and tomorrow-next were well offered at one and three per cent, respectively, the same as on Sunday.

The Central Bank dinar exchange rate was slightly softer at 0.2750/30 to the dollar from 0.2750/11 on Saturday on Sunday. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.2750/40.

Meanwhile, in Bahrain, Saudi rial interbank deposits were mainly steady in a quiet market yesterday but some short-dated deposits edged higher in response to borrowing demand as traders covered positions.

Dealers said business remained slow due to a three-day weekend in London, where many major offshore players are based.

Spot-next funds and one-week funds were steady at Sunday's 3/8, 1/8 per cent, with trade reported at those levels. One-month edged up to 7/3/8, 1/4 per cent from 7/1/4, 3/16 with deals reported at 7/1/4, and 5/16 per cent.

Three, six, and one-month deposits were little changed at 7/5/8, 1/2 per cent, 7/13/16, 1/16 per cent and 8/1/4, 1/8 per cent respectively.

The spot rial was steady at 3.7503/05 to the dollar.

Cheap dollar a boon as foreigners flock to US

NEW YORK, May 30, (Reuters): Drawn by bargain shopping with cheap US dollars, foreign tourists are flocking to America, with 11.9 million overseas visitors expected this year, Time magazine reported yesterday.

Gold steadies Dollar firm on US rate talks

FRANKFURT, May 30, (Reuters): The dollar traded today at around its highest against West Germany's mark this year, buoyed by speculation of a rise in US interest rates.

Investors were betting that the Federal Reserve will have to raise its key discount rate to 6.5 per cent, from 6.25, to dampen inflationary pressures in the United States.

That would make dollar assets more rewarding, hence the move to buy dollars. In Europe's morning the dollar touched quoted highs at 1.7245 marks and 125 yen, although business was quiet with the New York and London markets closed for holidays.

"It certainly looks as if US interest rates will rise further and this should help the dollar," said a foreign bank dealer — although, given such economic problems as the size of the US trade deficit, he was not sure how long the dollar would ride so high.

The Fed confounded rumours of a discount rate increase before the long US Memorial Day weekend. But many dealers think a modest tightening of US money supply since early April will not dampen buoyant domestic demand and rising inflation.

Gold was being quoted in Europe around \$452.75 an ounce, steady around the lower levels to which it slipped last week.

In stock markets, Tokyo surged up today due to bargain-hunting and speculative buying, but brokers said Japanese investors were wary about interest rates.

Stock markets worry that costlier borrowing will hit consumer spending and pinch profits. Wall Street closed last Friday with an 11-point fall.

Tokyo's Nikkei share index rose 260.60 points, or 0.97 per cent, to end at 27,223.10 after sinking 327.99 points, in the half-day session last Saturday.

But analyst Moriyo Tahara of Schroder Securities said: "There will be consolidation until things in the US become clearer. In the short term, there will be little direction."

Elsewhere in Asia, Hong Kong stocks fell.

Australian stocks were steady with the main index 0.3 points lower at 1,539.3. Demand for selected industrial stocks was offset by a downturn in the gold sector, Sydney brokers said.

"The only weak spot was the gold sector, but with the gold price off the boil that's hardly surprising," one broker said.

In Europe, French shares opened with the bourse indicator down 0.13 per cent in quiet trade. West German shares were a little firmer, buoyed by the dollar's gains which were seen as likely to help export earnings.

making handsome profits to declare reasonable dividend. SBICAP has so far provided support under the scheme to 5 such entrepreneurs.

Since 1986 a number of public sector corporations in India have issued bonds carrying attractive rates of interest. SBICAP developed a scheme for buying and selling of these bonds in the secondary market thereby giving liquidity for these bonds in the hands of the public.

The scheme has been implemented by SBICAP and it is in operation in a few branches of State Bank of India for the last few months.

SBICAP is also offering services to clients who wish to acquire equity holdings en bloc from other shareholders or wish to disinvest such holdings of their own. Using SBICAP's influence, assistance in this respect is being provided either by arranging private placement or by using established institutional intermediaries.

Other forms of capital market services include bridging arrangements pending restructuring of capital.

SBICAP is also actively involved in developing project appraisal capabilities. At present even in respect of proposals where financing participation is not involved, financial institutions are required to appraise projects which involve going in for equities and loans.

Within a short period, SBICAP will have capabilities of appraising proposals and giving their seals of approval rendering it possible for the companies to raise loans from financial institutions and banks as well as getting clearances from such agencies as Controller of Capital Issues.

SBICAP has prepared a pilot scheme for providing equity support to new and relatively unknown entrepreneurs who are currently finding it difficult to raise resources from the capital market in view of investor resistance to such issues.

Metal workers urge link between trade and workers' rights

GENEVA, May 30, (AP): The International Metalworkers' Federation, which groups unions in 70 countries, urged today that full access to world trade be made conditional on respect for basic workers' rights.

It called for such an enforceable link in a "social clause" in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, GATT, and in national and regional legislation.

A 51-page report says repression of labour rights and consequent low wages is keeping down domestic demand, specifically in the so-called newly industrialised countries such as Taiwan, South Korea, while providing these countries with trading advantages.

The report suggests that low wages based on such suppression of basic rights "constitute an unfair trading advantage which GATT could investigate and, if necessary, take action against" just as GATT, the principal body responsible for regulating international trade, is to intervene against other unfair practices.

Herman Rebhan, general secretary of the federation, said in a preface that the proposal was not meant to deprive developing countries "of the advantage they may enjoy through wages lower than the highest paid in the industrialised world."

Conditions "But it does mean that the conditions necessary to improve wages and conditions, i.e. the existence of unions able to function freely, should be permitted," he added.

The report says a GATT social clause "if effectively applied, would in due course contribute to lifting of bans and interference in trade union rights."

It said the proposals are also aimed at the multinational companies which "between them control two-thirds of the world trade" but which, it alleged, failed to introduce in Third World countries the same conditions their employees enjoy in their home countries.

"An enforceable link between trade and workers' rights might force multinationals to export more than their capital, some of their technology and managers from Europe, North America and Japan," the report said. "It might oblige them to export the democratic rights."

The Geneva-based federation coordinates the international activities of 165 unions worldwide, claiming 14 million members in eight major industries including aerospace, automobile, electronics, engineering, shipbuilding, steel, metal and electrical industries.

beginning voting on new constitutional restrictions on foreign investment. The most radical of the new articles would nationalise mining over a five-year period. The article may be deleted during a final congressional vote on the constitution, but legal and political analysts say this isn't likely to happen.

The vote to nationalise won by a huge margin, surprising many leading politicians and businessmen. It was the result of an alliance representing the interests of Brazilian mining and construction companies.

Foreign mining interests, which include American, European, Australian, and South African companies, were unhappy about the vote, although they can retain minority holdings in mining.

Many businessmen said that if the new provision takes effect, it will hurt Brazilian mineral production, much of which earns export revenues and helps to pay the foreign debt. They explain that few local companies have the money to buy out the foreign majority share-holdings and pay for new prospecting.

"It will cut back the country's mineral development. ... It will slow down the pace of investment," said Jose Roberto Opice, a lawyer who represents many foreign businesses in Brazil.

The same alliance also voted to prohibit the government from granting new petroleum exploration contracts to foreign companies. But a move to nationalise all petroleum distribution, written into the previous draft of the new constitution, failed because of effective lobbying by the distributors, including Exxon, Arco, Shell, and Texaco.

But there have been some positive developments for foreign investment, too. Government officials are now working to remove longtime bureaucratic obstacles to imports and exports. Finance Minister Mello said last month Brazil must increase imports of capital goods and raw materials so as to gear up for economic growth.

The government has also moved to loosen restrictions on foreign computer companies, which have called for a more workable and transparent policy to reduce the government's discretionary power in deciding what may be imported or manufactured.

Experts to meet local investors and NRIs SBICAP team to visit Kuwait

A 5-MEMBER delegation of the SBI Capital Markets Ltd. premier merchant bankers, financial advisors, loan syndicators, is arriving in Kuwait on June 4. This is a subsidiary of the State Bank of India, which is one of the hundred largest banks in the world.

SBI Capital Markets Ltd. which was set up in 1986, during its short span of less than two years, it has already extended leasing facilities for over Rs22 crores, has created secondary market for public sector bonds, launched a mutual fund named Magnum Certificate for which subscriptions aggregated over Rs144 crores as against issue of over Rs100 crores and managed over 65 issues in 1987 raising an aggregate sum of Rs3060 million.

The delegation, during its 4-day visit to Kuwait, will meet important Kuwaiti organisations such as KIA, KEJIC, KIC, KIC, Gulf Investment Corporation and Kuwait Industrial Bank. The team will also hold a conference on Sunday, at Hotel Meridien to brief the NRIs and local investors about various investment opportunities available in India, portfolio management, prospects for setting up projects and various tax implications.

Services The team headed by D. Basu, Managing Director of the SBI Capital Markets Ltd. includes other senior officials namely S.M. Parande, Executive Director; SBICAP, looking after mutual fund; A.K. Dam, General Manager in charge of leasing, portfolio investment and advisory services and J.R. Som Chaudhry, Manager, Corporate Finance Group. H.P. Rastogi, eminent tax consultant, who delivers comments on the budget after the same is presented every year and has authored several publications including "Taxation of Non-Residents in India" and has contributed about 900 articles in prestigious newspapers and publications like "Business World", "Gentleman", "Dalal Street Journal", "Signature" and "Financial Express", will cover tax implications.

The team will also be available for discussions with the parties or individuals who are interested in setting up projects in India or entrusting portfolio management business to SBI Capital Markets Ltd.

Basu, who has had several exposures to specialised management developmental programmes in India and abroad, had a long stint in London as Manager of the London branch and subsequently as General Manager in charge of the Bank's branches in the United Kingdom.

After returning to India, he headed Lucknow Circle of the State Bank of India, with a network of over 750 branches, as chief general manager. He is always bubbling with new constructive ideas and is likely to provide a good opportunity for fruitful discussions with prospective investors/entrepreneurs.

Before the establishment of SBICAP, leasing in India was predominantly done by private leasing companies who were following different and sometimes questionable practices. The advent of SBICAP into the leasing arena has given a good boost to leasing business in India within a short span of time.

The requirements of lease finance from public sector undertakings which are of a large magnitude in amount are also being examined and the company proposes to sanction a few such leases before long for which a number of lease finance companies/banks will participate and pool their resources in arranging leases of high ticket items.

Changes in tax laws have an impact on the leasing industry; for example the withdrawal of investment allowance has made leasing favourable, whereas the introduction of sales tax on lease rentals has affected leasing adversely.

However, with rapid industrialisation envisaged in the current 5-year plan, the demand for leasing will continue to grow and, in course of time, will be one of the major sources of finance.

SBICAP has developed a package of investment management services for resident as well as non-resident clients. Suitable formats for the use of clients as well as appropriate computer software for computerised servicing of clients' portfolios has been developed.

SBICAP has prepared a pilot scheme for providing equity support to new and relatively unknown entrepreneurs who are currently finding it difficult to raise resources from the capital market in view of investor resistance to such issues.

SBICAP helps such promoters to raise capital without having to go through a public issue by placing a part of the equity with SBICAP who would offer such shares to the public at a later date when the project has been completed and the companies concerned are referred to Opec's ability to influence markets, since its current production stands at about 17 million barrels per day, compared with more than 38 million bpd from non-Opec countries.

The unused production capacity of Opec countries is estimated at about 10 million bpd, which exerts a downward pressure on prices, because most Opec countries are poor and depend heavily on oil exports to finance their development.

He stressed the need for co-ordination between Opec and non-Opec producers, since the nature of the oil industry requires enormous investments that take a long time to reach the production stage. Such vast investments make market stability imperative.

Al Wattari compared the nature of the function carried out by Opec and Oaspec. The interests of the latter were concentrated on supporting the petroleum industry of its member countries.

Oaspec joint-ventures play an important role in this respect. There was nothing in the Oaspec agreement that would prohibit the co-ordination among its members with respect of pricing and production policies. It was a matter of choice that this aspect was left to Opec.

In the long run, however, the oil reserves of the non-Arab members of the Opec are expected to decline, increasing the responsibility of the Arab countries as core producers to supply oil for export, a fact that might create a future role for Oaspec in this respect.

Brazil desperately needs new funds

SAO PAULO, Brazil, (CSM): Brazil is sending a new but mixed message to foreign investors on just how welcome they are here. Some new laws seek to restrict foreign business, while others try to increase opportunities.

A year ago, as a recession began to affect many businesses, Congress began writing a new constitution. Since then, many companies, both Brazilian and foreign, have been holding back on new investment, waiting to see what happens.

Since the 1950s, Brazil has largely protected its industry from foreign competition, to develop the economy. After three decades, Brazil now manufactures most of its industrial and consumer goods, and the economy, measured by gross national product, ranks eighth among capitalist countries.

Brazil desperately needs new funds to finance the growth required to pay its \$111 billion foreign debt, and many top government officials and business leaders agree the time has come for Brazil to open up to foreign trade and investment.

But many powerful Brazilians have vested interests in the old, protective system. Last week, Brazil's Congress began voting on new constitutional restrictions on foreign investment. The most radical of the new articles would nationalise mining over a five-year period. The article may be deleted during a final congressional vote on the constitution, but legal and political analysts say this isn't likely to happen.

The vote to nationalise won by a huge margin, surprising many leading politicians and businessmen. It was the result of an alliance representing the interests of Brazilian mining and construction companies.

Foreign mining interests, which include American, European, Australian, and South African companies, were unhappy about the vote, although they can retain minority holdings in mining.

Many businessmen said that if the new provision takes effect, it will hurt Brazilian mineral production, much of which earns export revenues and helps to pay the foreign debt. They explain that few local companies have the money to buy out the foreign majority share-holdings and pay for new prospecting.

"It will cut back the country's mineral development. ... It will slow down the pace of investment," said Jose Roberto Opice, a lawyer who represents many foreign businesses in Brazil.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

- TENDER NO. MEW/22/47/42-57/88
Tender's internal No. 906/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Electricity & Water
Requirements: Supply & installation of 8 (eight) turbine generators & auxiliaries at Al Sabah Station Project.
Relevant fee: 2000
Initial guarantee: 2 1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon Tuesday 23.5.88
A pre-tender meeting shall be held on Wednesday 6.7.88 at 10.00 am in the MEW site to answer the queries.
Qualified tenderers:
Company - local agent
Ansaldo SPA, Italy - Abdulla Al Hamad Al Sagar & Bros
1. Asa Brown Boveri, Germany, (ABB) Sweden; 2. Alisthorm S.A. France - Brown Boveri Electrical Co.
Joint Venture:
Mitsui & Tohichi Co. Japan - Al Thuwani Trdg. & Contg. Co.
Siemens Co. A.G. Germany - National & Germany Electrical & Electronic Services Co.
Consortium:
1. Westinghouse International Power Systems Co. America; 2. Hyundai, Korea - United Shipping Services Co.
Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Japan - Abdulla Al Sayed Hashim Al Gharrabli Co.
Joint venture:
1. Hitachi Co. Ltd., Japan; 2. Nissei Sangyo Co. Ltd.; 3. Marubeni Corp. - Yusuf Ahmed Al Ghanim & Sons
TENDER NO. A 623/C
Tender's internal No. 919/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.
Requirements: Completion works of new hole in Mina Abdulla Refinery for oil precipitation removal.
Relevant fee: KD30
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon Sunday 17.5.88
Qualified tenderers:
1. Al Othman Trdg. & Contg. Co.
2. Al Al Sayegh Trdg. & Contg. Co.
3. Al Sawari Trdg. & Gen. Contg. Co.
4. Abdulla Adnan Trdg. & Gen. Contg. Co.
5. Consolidated Contractors Co. (Conoco)
6. Al Fahad Trdg. & Contg. Co.
7. Abdul Latif Moh'd Thunian Al Ghanim Est.
8. Al Razaka Trdg. & Contg. Co.
9. Al Ruwaisat Construction Contg. Co.
10. United Gulf Construction Contg. Co.
11. Al Alam Factories Co.
12. Ahmad Ghilum Riza Ashiknani Est.
13. Al Mukaber Trdg. & Contg. Co.
14. Khalifa Duaij Al Dabous & Bros. Co.
15. Al Mansour & Al Abdullly Trdg. & Contg. Co.
16. Sultan Moh'd Construction Materials & Contg. Co.
17. Grand Sahara Contg. Co.
18. Kuwait Burhan Trdg. & Contg. Co.
19. Al Badah & M-seri Trdg. & Contg. Co.
20. Al Marwa Trdg. & Contg. Co.
21. Al Meer Technical Services Co.
22. Al Adasani Contg. Est.
23. Burqan Contg. Co.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 30/5/88			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.No.
1	Al Noor	Alghanim	4842988
2	Kailash	Gh&Q	4747815
3	Barwil Express	Alghanim	4842988
4	Liao Yang	M. Bahar	2433881
6	Smolny	A. Seas	2421303
8	Ibn Abdoun	KSA	4843150
9	Tug Amsterdam	Gulf Star	4845501
10	Barge Jubail		
12	Norasia Attica	Emad	4841807
13	Dhualagiri	Balship	2431973
14	Jilfar	KSA	4843150
16	Sunday Cape	Gh&Q	4747815
17	Mistral		
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.No.
30/5	Barge Steven Rock	Sager	4845501
30/5	Eastern Glory	Barber	4842988
30/5	Queen Emerald	Marafi	4848665
30/5	Fathul Khair		
31/5	Lanka Sreedevi		
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B NO	SHIPS NAME	AGENT	TEL NO.
2	Sparkle Sun	Gh&Q	4747815
12	Kanika IV	Gh Barber	4842988
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.No.
30/5	Uco XVII	Sager Ship	4810973
30/5	Al Noor	Gh Barber	4842988
30/5	Vito	RSMS	2423642
30/5	Al Majed	MA Bahar	2433881
31/5	Rhein Express		
1/6	Torbay	KMMC	2419814
1/6	Trade Fair	MA Bahar	2433881
2/6	Abu Basma	RSMS	2423642
4/6	Ionian Empress	Barber	4842988
4/6	Al Wajba	UASC	4843150
4/6	Dubai	RSMS	2423642
8/6	Vevey		
9/6	Lelaps		

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HONDA Civic Shuttle, January 1985, automatic, well maintained. One owner, in good condition. KD775. Tele. 3940770 ext. 54, after 4 pm. (AT4-42483-3)

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VOLVO estate 1983, very low mileage, regularly maintained, in immaculate condition. One owner. KD2050. Tele. 4810844 (Volvo). (AT2-42466-3)

MERCEDES 280 SE 1976, fully automatic with AC, dark green, in good condition. KD 750. Tele. 5385094. (AT2-42473-3)

SUBARU 1981, AC manual, 5 speed in very good condition. KD225, on cash. Tele. Mr. Will, 4846843 ext. 4507. (AT4-42484-2)

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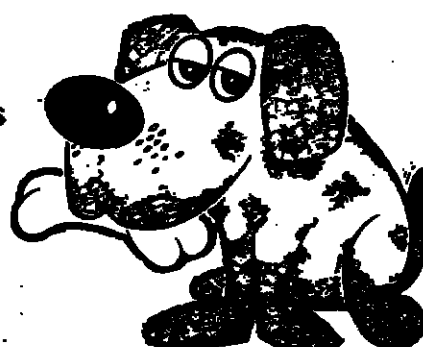
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Richards helps Surrey overwhelm Essex

LONDON, May 30, (Reuters): Jack Richards smashed 105 not out as joint English Sunday Cricket League leaders Surrey raced to an eight-wicket win over Essex.

Richards reached his century off 94 balls, his last 50 arriving from 31 deliveries. He hit 11 fours and two sixes out of a winning total of 139 for two.

Middlesex, who share top spot, maintained their unbeaten run and sent Sussex to a fourth successive defeat with a convincing 53-run victory.

Figured
The highlight of Middlesex's 213 for five was a chanceless 77 by Roland Butcher, who struck two sixes and five fours.

Pakistan's Imran Khan figured in the best Sussex stand of 56 with Ian Gould but he failed to master the Middlesex attack.

Third-placed Lancashire remained in the hunt by beating Leicestershire on a faster scoring rate.

Leicestershire made 99 for one in reply to 214 for seven when rain washed out play. Stand-in opener Andy Hayhurst struck a career-best 84 for Lancashire. He was called in when England opener Graeme Fowler damaged his ribs in a fall.

John Morris scored his first League half-century of the season to steer Derbyshire to a nine-wicket triumph over Nottinghamshire.

Results
At Bristol: Gloucestershire v Warwickshire — match abandoned, 2 points each.

At Northampton: Northamptonshire v Kent match abandoned. Kent 143 for three in 16 overs (C. Tavaré 40 not out) v Northamptonshire when rain stopped play, 2 points each.

At Derby: Derbyshire beat Nottinghamshire by nine wickets on faster scoring rate. Nottinghamshire 158 for seven in 34 overs innings closed (D. Randall 59, M. Holding four for 22). Derbyshire, needing 93 in 20 overs, scored 93 for one in 16 overs (H. Morris 50 not out). Derbyshire 4 points.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire beat Leicestershire on faster scoring rate. Lancashire 214 for seven innings closed (A. Hayhurst 84, N. Fairbrother 43, G. Ferris four for 24). Leicestershire 99 for one in 22.3 overs (L. Potter 51) when rain stopped play. Lancashire 4 points.

At Chelmsford: Surrey beat Essex by eight wickets. Essex 138 for eight in 32 overs innings closed (A. Gray four for 56). Surrey 139 for two in 26.3 overs (C. Richards 105 not out). Surrey 4 points.

At Lord's: Middlesex beat Sussex by 53 runs. Middlesex 213 for five 38 overs innings closed (R. Butcher 77, M. Gatting 51). Sussex 160 for seven innings closed. Middlesex 4 points.

At Middlebrough: Hampshire beat Yorkshire on faster scoring rate. Yorkshire 141 for three in 31.3 overs (M. Moxon 44). Hampshire, needing 90 in 20 overs, scored 90 for three in 19 overs. Hampshire 4 points.

Achieved
Since World War Two only Glenn Turner, with the 1973 touring New Zealanders, had achieved the feat. Only W.G. Grace and Don Bradman needed fewer innings than Hick's 11.

Does the fact that Hick is from Zimbabwe and ineligible to play for his adopted England until 1991 leave him frustrated? "I really need those two years because I am still learning the game," he replied.

If Hick bats again in the three-day match ending today, another 56 runs would give him the highest ever total before the end of May, beating Englishman Tom Hayward's 1,074 in 1900.

"Oddly enough, I felt none of the pressure in this innings that I experienced in the last two games when I had four failures, but I felt agonisingly tense during the final 30 runs or so to 153," he told Reuters.

Only 22 and considered by Ian Botham to be as good as West Indies captain Viv Richards at the same age, Hick scored his first century when only six, hitting 24 fours in 105 not out in a

SENNA FINISHES IN SECOND PLACE

Prost wins Mexican GP to extend lead

MEXICO CITY, May 30, (Reuters): Alain Prost of France extended his lead at the top of the World Drivers' Championship to a commanding 15 points when he cruised to his 31st Grand Prix victory in Mexico yesterday.

Prost, driving a McLaren, led throughout and set a lap record in the process as he led Brazilian team-mate Ayrton Senna home in flawless style to win by 7.1 seconds.

Senna, starting from pole position for the fourth time in four races this season, was unable to challenge Prost for the lead and had settled for second place long before the finish.

Ahead
It was Prost's third win of the season. Senna won the other race.

Ferrari pair Gerhard Berger of Austria and Italian Michele Alboreto finished third and fourth ahead of Arrows duo Derek Warwick of Britain and American Eddie Cheever, fifth and sixth respectively.

Italian Alessandro Nannini, driving a Benetton, was the leading finisher among the cars powered by normally aspirated engines. He came seventh, ahead of team-mate Thierry Boutsen of Belgium.

World champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil retired after 60 of the 67-lap race when his engine

failed while he was holding fourth position.

The race distance was reduced by one lap when Nannini's Benetton stalled on the grid for the initial start.

Prost made a brilliant start and quickly built a clear advantage over Senna. The McLaren pair remained comfortably ahead of the Lotus's of Piquet and Japan's Satoru Nakajima, who ran third and fourth during the opening laps before Nakajima was overtaken by the Ferraris. He finally retired after 27 laps with a blown engine.

By this stage, the race had become a procession. The positions of the leading six cars remained unchanged from the ninth lap when Berger took third place from Piquet until Nakajima's retirement. And from that stage until Piquet fell by the wayside the competition was equally dull.

One of the most exciting tussles was between the Arrows pair. They fought a close battle before Warwick was able to clinch fifth place with a gutsy drive ahead of Cheever.

Berger stormed through the middle section of the race and closed the gap on Senna for a long period. At one stage, he cut it to three seconds, but tyre wear prevented him from maintaining his charge and by the closing



Prost crosses the starting line first as Michele Alboreto (left) moves to pass him before crossing the starting line. (Reuters wirephoto)

stages he had drifted more than 40 seconds away from the McLaren pair.

Prost's quickest lap was his 52nd when he clocked one minute 18.608 seconds to beat the record set last year by Piquet.

Briton Nigel Mansell, winner last year, failed to finish. He retired after 19 laps with electrical problems. It was the fourth time in four outings that the Williams driver had not completed a race.

Frenchman Philippe Alliot, who crashed at 240 kph during Saturday's final practice, was on the grid for the start in a rebuilt car, but he also became an early casualty on the demanding altitude circuit.

Prost said he was worried by tyre wear in the opening stages of the race. "But a lot of rubber was laid on the track surface in the second part and my worries went away."

Senna was also concerned about his tyres. "I had wanted to lead from the first lap but when I was trying to make up space, I lost rubber on the tyres and had to slow down."

"There was nothing I could do to stop Gerhard hauling up on me and I even thought of stopping for new tyres. But things were not too bad in the closing stages so I stayed out."

As expected, the race was dominated by the turbocharged brigade which lost less power at altitude than the normally aspirated cars.

Standings
World drivers' championship standings after four rounds:

1. Alain Prost (France) McLaren 33 points; 2. Gerhard Berger (Austria) Ferrari 18; 3. Ayrton Senna (Brazil) McLaren 15; 4. Michele Alboreto (Italy) Ferrari 9; 5. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Lotus 8; 6. Derek Warwick (Britain) Arrows 8; 7. Thierry Boutsen (Belgium) Benetton 3; 8. Jonathan Palmer (Britain) Tyrrell 2; 9. Satoru Nakajima (Japan) Lotus 1; 10. Riccardo Patrese (Italy) Williams 1; 11. Alessandro Nannini (Italy) Benetton 1; 12. Eddie Cheever (US) Arrows 1.
World Constructors' Championship:
1. McLaren 48 points; 2. Ferrari 27; 3. Lotus 9; 4. Arrows 9; 5. Benetton 4; 6. Tyrrell 2; 7. Williams 1.
Next race: June 12 — Canadian Grand Prix, Montreal.

Fittipaldi's successful protest earns him 2nd place

Mears scores 3rd Indy-500 victory

INDIANAPOLIS, May 30, (Reuters): American Rick Mears took the lead on lap 123 and held on to win his third Indianapolis 500-mile (804.65 km) race yesterday.

Mears fell a lap behind in the early going, but after a change of tyres, wheels and wing attitudes, grabbed the lead of the 200-lap race from teammate Danny Sullivan and never looked back. Mears handed car owner Roger Penske his seventh victory in 20 years of Indianapolis 500 competition.

Penalised
Two-time world Formula One driving champion, Emerson Fittipaldi crossed the finish line second, but two laps before the finish it was announced that the Brazilian had been penalised two laps for passing another car on lap 170 while a yellow flag was out at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Three hours after the race ended however, chief steward Tom Benford reviewed tapes of the race, rescinded the penalty and returned Fittipaldi to second place.

Benford ruled that the Brazilian passed American Rich Vogler properly within the rules. "He waved me by," Fittipaldi said, adding that he and Vogler discussed the incident after the race and went to Benford to present the case.

Mears' teammate, four-time champion Al Unser, Sr., driving on his 49th birthday, was dropped from second to third place and fellow-American Michael Andretti was listed fourth. The results were not to become official until today.

The 36-year-old Mears, who



Mears holds up three fingers to indicate his third victory. Behind Mears, Penske slips a beer as Mears is offered milk. (Reuters wirephoto)

started from the pole position, averaged 144.809 (233 kph). He won the pole after setting one-lap and four-lap records on the 2.5-mile (4.0 km) track of 220.453 mph (354.775 kph) and 219.198 (352.755 kph).

The race finished under a caution flag after Michael Andretti lost a wing on the straight two laps from the finish.

But there was never any doubt that Mears, who won also this race in 1979 and 1982, would win with or without the yellow flag.

Unser, Michael Andretti and

1986 champion Bobby Rahal, the fifth place finisher, all were credited with 199 laps, while Scotsman Jim Crawford was placed sixth with 198 laps.

Originally, Crawford was shown as finishing second, but a late scoring revision dropped him to fifth and Fittipaldi's successful protest dropped the Scotsman another place to sixth.

Brazilian Raul Boesel, Americans Phil Krueger and Dick Simon and Arie Luyendyk of the Netherlands finished seventh through 10th unofficially.

Mears was one of only four drivers to hold the lead in the race that lasted three hours 27 minutes 10.2 seconds. Mears' teammate Sullivan led for 91 laps. Mears held the lead for 89 laps, while Unser was ahead for 12 and Crawford eight.

"There's no question he'll have a seat on our team for a long, long time," Penske said of Mears.

"I don't think this will be the last time you'll see him in the winner's circle," Penske added.

The race started with an accident on the second turn of the first lap when Scott Brayton spun and carried Colombian Roberto Guerrero into the wall. Tony Bettenhausen got caught up in the accident too.

Race
Also crashing during the race four-time winner A.J. Foyt, three-time champion Johnny Rutherford, 1983 winner Tom Sneva, 1985 winner Sullivan, Canadian Ludwig Krauth, Steve Chassey and Vogler.

Only Chassey was taken to hospital and did not appear to be in serious condition.

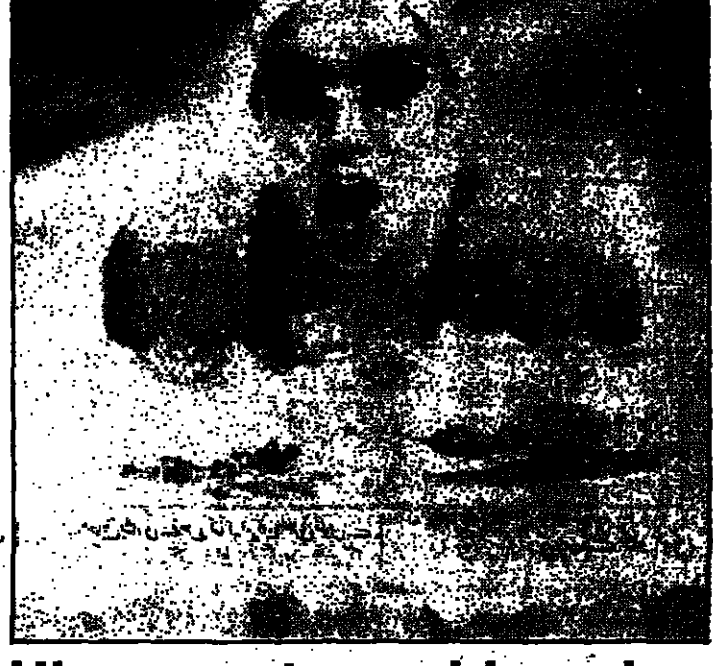
happy," said Higson, who was mobbed by her teammates after the race.

She joins Victor Davis, who set the men's 200-metre breaststroke mark in 1984, as current Canadian world record holders and gold medal contenders for the Seoul Olympics.

Higson, who had broken fellow Canadian Cindy Ongu's Commonwealth record in a qualifying heat, dominated the race from the start to win in two minutes 27.27 seconds.

HI
The previous world record of 2:27.40 was set by Silke Hornor of East Germany in 1986.

"It hasn't hit me yet, I'm so



Higson sets world mark

MONTREAL, May 30, (Reuters): Fifteen-year-old Allison Higson emerged as one of Canada's top gold medal hopes when she set a world record in the women's 200-metre breaststroke at the Canadian Olympic swimming trials yesterday.

Higson, who had broken fellow Canadian Cindy Ongu's Commonwealth record in a qualifying heat, dominated the race from the start to win in two minutes 27.27 seconds.

HI
The previous world record of 2:27.40 was set by Silke Hornor of East Germany in 1986.

"It hasn't hit me yet, I'm so

happy," said Higson, who was mobbed by her teammates after the race.

She joins Victor Davis, who set the men's 200-metre breaststroke mark in 1984, as current Canadian world record holders and gold medal contenders for the Seoul Olympics.

"I've had the world record on my mind for a year now," said Higson. "When I went out, I felt really strong."

"I think I heard the crowd after the 100 (metres). I think I tried to let the crowd take me — to listen to the crowd and go for it."

I am still learning the game, says Hick

WORCESTER, England, May 30, (Reuters): Graeme Hick reacted to becoming only the eighth cricketer to score 1,000 first-class runs before the end of May by announcing: "I still have a lot to learn."

He needed to make an improbable 153 to reach his target for Worcestershire on a pitch of uneven bounce and in his first ever exposure to the fearsome West Indies pace attack. But Hick was equal to the task on Saturday and batted all day for 172.

Achieved
Since World War Two only Glenn Turner, with the 1973 touring New Zealanders, had achieved the feat. Only W.G. Grace and Don Bradman needed fewer innings than Hick's 11.

Does the fact that Hick is from Zimbabwe and ineligible to play for his adopted England until 1991 leave him frustrated? "I really need those two years because I am still learning the game," he replied.

If Hick bats again in the three-day match ending today, another 56 runs would give him the highest ever total before the end of May, beating Englishman Tom Hayward's 1,074 in 1900.

"Oddly enough, I felt none of the pressure in this innings that I experienced in the last two games when I had four failures, but I felt agonisingly tense during the final 30 runs or so to 153," he told Reuters.

Only 22 and considered by Ian Botham to be as good as West Indies captain Viv Richards at the same age, Hick scored his first century when only six, hitting 24 fours in 105 not out in a



Hick: feels he still has a lot to learn schoolboy match.

In 1983, he became the youngest player included in a squad for the World Cup, although Zimbabwe did not play him. Three years later, aged 20, he became the youngest player to score 2,000 runs in an English

season.

But most astonishing of all was his 405 not out against Somerset three weeks ago which followed a 212 in the first county game of the season and took his tally to a staggering 815 first-class runs by May 6.

It was the only first-class 400 this century in England, coming 93 years after Archie MacLaren's record 424 in 1895, also made against Somerset at Taunton.

Hick's next four innings brought only 33, destroying his chance of reaching 1,000 runs by May 27, the earliest date for the feat, set by Australian Donald Bradman in 1930 when only 21.

When Hick made his debut for Worcestershire at the very end of the 1984 season against Surrey at the Oval, incredibly he batted ninth with Worcester's second innings standing at a precarious 194 for seven. He gave notice of his arrival with an undefeated 82 out of a 123-partnership with skipper Phil Neale.

Hick's awesome flair with the bat is complemented by some more than useful off-spin, which has yielded more than 50 first-class wickets with a career best four for 31 against Lancashire last year.

In addition, Hick's lightning reflexes have enabled him not just to pick up the line of the ball earlier than most batsmen, but also to become a brilliant slip fielder.

Apart from his eye for the ball, Hick's success as a batsman lies in a tempering of strength with athleticism, diligent training, devastating front foot driving and an ability to punish mercilessly any delivery just off-line.

Hick's technique against short-pitched bowling is considered among the best in the country and his book-shots are unrivalled, invariably hit low and mostly in front of square.

Ominously for bowlers, Hick

feels his batting can improve. "There are quite a few areas that I'm going to be working on. That's possibly why I'm enjoying my cricket so much at the moment. I know I can definitely improve as a player over the next two to three years," he said.

Hick's impact has led to appeals for the English Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) to bend qualification rules and allow the Zimbabwean on to the top class international stage to play for England.

But TCCB chairman Raman Subba Row has remained unmoved, and Hick accepts the decision, certain he can maintain his hunger for the game until he qualifies.

"Now and again I feel I could do with two or three days' rest, but you learn to keep going and I suppose being young helps a lot and being new in the game means you still have a lot of interest in it."

Enjoyed
This winter he will play in New Zealand as he did last year.

Hick singles out his 212 against Lancashire in April as his best innings in England. "The ball was turning a lot and we were struggling at the time. Obviously I really enjoyed my 400 at Taunton and it's an innings I'll be able to look back on with pleasure when I'm 50 or 60, but it wasn't my best."

Another favourite innings came against more lowly opposition. When Ireland toured Zimbabwe in 1985-86, they claimed they were not meeting good enough opposition. Hick was called in from coaching duties and promptly scored 309.

Mavericks beat Lakers

DALLAS, May 30, (Reuters): Derek Harper scored a career high 35 points to lead the Dallas Mavericks to a 118-104 win over the Los Angeles Lakers yesterday, levelling the best-of-seven Western Conference finals at two games each.

Each team has won two games at home. The series now shifts back to Los Angeles for the fifth game tomorrow.

Tempo
The National Basketball Association (NBA) champions, Los Angeles led 57-56 at half-time, but Dallas began to control the tempo in the third quarter and broke the game open.

Harper scored 14 of his 35 points in the third quarter, while

Mark Aguirre, who finished with 26, added 12 Dallas points in the decisive third period.

Roy Tarpley scored 16 points, grabbed 13 rebounds and blocked five shots in an impressive effort for the Mavericks.

Dallas led 89-83 after three quarters and built up the lead by outscoring the Lakers 21-10 in the first five minutes of the fourth quarter.

Irvin 'Magic' Johnson paced the Los Angeles attack with 28 points and 12 assists.

The winner of this series will face either the Boston Celtics or the Detroit Pistons in the NBA championship series. Detroit leads by two games to one with the fourth game set for Detroit this evening.



All the winners with their prizes at the conclusion of SAS Ladies Bridge Club's End of Season Tournament earlier this week. The event was won by Lyn Edwards and Pearl Leavy. Dona Materny and Irene P. Shuall took the second place while Clara Bastler and Suzanne Cattermole were third.

SPORTS

GRAF HURRIES INTO SEMIFINALS

Leconte upsets Becker in Open

PARIS, May 30, (Agencies). Defending champion Steffi Graf, her booming forehands cutting through a cold drizzle, beat Bettina Fulco of Argentina 6-0, 6-1 today to advance to the French Open semifinals.

But men's fifth seed Boris Becker was upset in a long, rain-interrupted match 6-7, 6-3, 6-1, 5-7, 6-4 by 11th seed Henri Leconte, France's last representative in the tournament.

Kent Carlsson, the seventh seed, fell to fellow Swede Jonas B. Svensson 5-7, 7-6, 1-6, 6-4, 6-2.

The repeated rain delays and the length of the Becker-Leconte match at centre court played havoc with the schedule, and forced postponement of the fourth-round match between John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl until tomorrow.

Also postponed was a fourth-round match between No. 4 Pat Cash and No. 14 Andrei Chesnokov. The winner will face Leconte in the quarterfinals.

McEnroe, who had been scheduled to follow Becker and Leconte, came out into the players' box dressed in a black overcoat to watch the last hour of the match.

Becker struggled for most of the match. His ground strokes often fell wide or long, and when



Leconte falls on the ground during his match. (Reuters wirephoto)

faulting at crucial moments. But on his second match point he rocketed a serve Becker couldn't handle, then ran forward and leaped over the net in celebration.

Graf, who has dropped only 14 games in her five matches at Roland Garros, was clearly in a hurry to get off a cold, windy and wet centre court as she wrapped up the first set in 16 minutes for the loss of just three points.

Succession
One spectator, fumbling to open an umbrella as intermittent rain fell, missed most of the set as the 18-year-old West German defending champion sent a succession of forehand winners whizzing past the helpless Fulco. "I wasn't very happy," Graf complained afterwards. "It was freezing cold and raining, sometimes very hard, and I've got a cold. I was happy it went pretty fast and I was off the court pretty soon."

The poor Argentine, ranked 37 in the world, is by no means a bad player as her straight sets second-round win over former champion Hana Mandlikova of Australia proved, but she must have wished she had been anywhere else but on the other side of the net from Graf.

She saved some pride by winning one game as she served to

save the match — to huge cheers from a sympathetic crowd. Graf won in 43 minutes and it would have been less had not play been halted twice while both players argued that they should stop because of the rain.

The defending champion said her training sessions on days off were harder work than her appearances on centre court. "The tough questions at press conferences sometimes make me sweat more than the matches," she added.

But she said she was looking forward to meeting Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, who has beaten her twice this year, in the semifinals. "It's always interesting to have a challenging match," she said.

Martina Navratilova got some revenge today for a French Open loss that her longtime doubles partner said was especially bitter because it came against a Soviet player.

Navratilova herself said yesterday's 6-3, 7-6 loss to 17-year-old Natalia Zvereva, was "particularly disgusting for me."

The 31-year-old American and partner Pam Shriver defeated Zvereva and Natalia Bykova of the Soviet Union 6-3, 6-2 to reach the quarterfinals in women's doubles.



Lalonde (left) in action against Stewart. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lalonde retains title

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, May 30, (Reuters). Canadian Doany Lalonde stopped Trinidad's Leslie "Tiger" Stewart with a ponderous right-hander to defend his World Boxing Council (WBC) light-heavyweight title at the National Stadium yesterday.

The dramatic end came two minutes and 27 seconds into the fifth of 12 scheduled rounds when American referee Marty Denkins intervened to save the Trinidadian from taking more punishment.

Stewart, a former World Boxing Association (WBA) light-heavyweight champion, fell for the second time in the fight and was up as the referee counted to nine seconds. But he grabbed the ropes for support and leaned helplessly as he was pummeled with left and right combinations.

Stewart's mouth was bleeding and his head was bobbing up and

down like a puppet's from the blows when Denkins ended the fight.

The champion took complete control from the first round and knocked down Stewart in the second round with another fierce right.

Stewart, 27, was up at the count of eight to the cheers of the 8,000-strong crowd shouting "Tiger, Tiger, Tiger."

Lalonde, 28, said afterwards he was surprised when Stewart stood up after the second round knockdown. "He was a strong fighter," he said.

It was Stewart's third defeat in 29 bouts, while the victory pushed Lalonde to a 31-2 record. Lalonde, who knocked out American Eddie Davis in the second round here last November to win the vacant crown, received a career-best purse of \$300,000, while Stewart got \$100,000.

Samaranch rejects N.Korea's bid

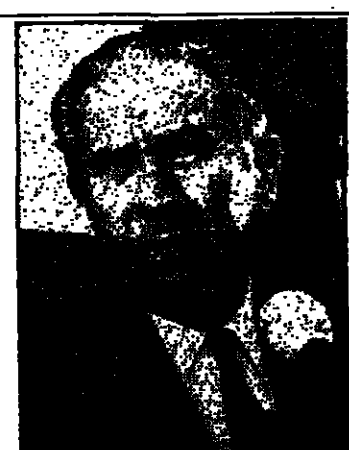
SEOUL, South Korea, May 30, (AP). Juan Antonio Samaranch, head of the International Olympic Committee, said today that North Korea's demand to co-host the 1988 Olympic Games is unacceptable.

He said, however, that the door will be left open until the last minute for the North to take part in the Games.

Samaranch told an airport news conference on his arrival that the North's co-hosting bid is against the "Olympic charter and unacceptable because of its political nature."

Allowed
Communist North Korea says it will boycott the Games, to be held in Seoul, Sept 17-Oct 2, unless it is allowed to be a co-host.

The North says the division of the Korean peninsula would be perpetuated if the South alone stages the Games. But the IOC



has said repeatedly that the Games are awarded to a single city and cannot be shared.

Samaranch said North Korea has not yet responded to the IOC's offer that it stage five of the Games' athletic events if it drops the co-hosting demand and takes part in the Seoul Olympics.

He described the offer as "a historical proposal" and said it would remain valid until the last moment.

Britain defeat Malaysia

IPOH, Malaysia, May 30, (Reuters). Britain survived the tropical heat to beat hosts Malaysia 1-0 in a six-nation men's hockey tournament which began today.

The other game between Asian champions South Korea and the Soviet Union ended in a 1-1 draw.

Britain were content to soak up the pressure, relying on quick counter-attacks and it was from one of these that ace striker Sean

Kerly scored the 58th minute winner.

Britain's team manager Roger Sels said: "We expected a tougher match against Malaysia in view of the home ground advantage and the climate."

After a goalless first half, the Soviet Union went into the lead in the 47th minute thanks to substitute Sergei Pleshakov who connected with a cross from Igor Davydov.

Grabbed
The fitter and faster South Koreans grabbed the equaliser four minutes later through You Seung Jin.

Soviet team manager Mikhail Osintsev was happy with the draw, saying: "The Koreans were too fast for us and we also had difficulty in adapting to the strong afternoon heat."

Britain meet Olympic champions Pakistan tomorrow, while the Soviet Union play India.

SPORTS BRIEFS

W. Indies match

WORCESTER, England, May 30, (Reuters). Worcestershire and the West Indies drew their three-day cricket match which ended today. Scores: Worcestershire 321 for three declared. West Indies 170 for five.

Phil Simmons

BRISTOL, England, May 30, (Reuters). West Indies opening batsman Phil Simmons was allowed out of bed today, four days after a life-saving operation needed when he was struck on the head by a ball during the game with Gloucestershire last week.

World badminton

KUALA LUMPUR, May 30, (Reuters). China moved into the finals of the Thomas and Uber Cup World Team Badminton championship after completing a 5-0 whitewash of Denmark and Indonesia in each of the competitions.

Stapleton fit

LONDON, May 30, (Reuters). Veteran striker Frank Stapleton passed a fitness test today and will captain Ireland in next month's European Championship finals in West Germany.

Corning Classic

CORNING, N.Y., May 30, (Reuters). Sherri Turner, who last week captured the LPGA championship after four winless years on the US Women's Golf Tour, won the \$325,000 Corning Classic by two strokes yesterday.

Memorial Golf

DUBLIN, Ohio, May 30, (Reuters). Curtis Strange, who set the course record with a 64 on Saturday, shot 67 yesterday to win the Memorial Golf tournament by two strokes over fellow American Hale Irwin and South African David Frost.

Walsall win

WALSALL, England, May 30, (Reuters). Walsall beat Bristol City 4-0 in an English League soccer playoff replay match today.

Cup qualifier

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, May 30, (AP). Jamaica moved one step closer to the 1990 World Cup series in Italy defeating Puerto Rico 2-1 in an elimination match yesterday.

Crowd violence

LONDON, May 30, (Reuters). The English Football Association (F.A.) is now further away from finding answers to the problems of crowd violence than it was 15 years ago, F.A. secretary Bert Millichip admitted today.

Italian Derby

ROME, May 30, (Reuters). Local hope Tesserand, winner of five of his six starts, narrowly held off a strong British challenge despite the rain-softened ground to win the Italian Derby at the Capannelle yesterday.

French filly

PARIS, May 30, (Reuters). French filly Miesque, winner of the English and French 1,000 Guineas last year, landed the Group One Prix d'Espahan at Longchamp yesterday despite a bad run through on the rails.

Porto triumph

LISBON, May 30, (Reuters). Three goals in six minutes by Fernando Gomes gave new Portuguese League champions Porto a 4-0 home win over Farense yesterday.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hilton Bridge Club game held on Sunday:
1. Cher & Zaher
2. Medard & Tish
3. Sandra & Adel
4. Medhat & Duaj

Palaro '88

SCHEDULE for Kapilku's Palaro '88 "Batakan ng Buto" games on Thursday and Friday:

Thursday
Lawn tennis (Qadsia Sports Club): 5:00 to 8:30 pm.
National Panasonic vs Kay & Associates — men's singles; AG&P Co. of MIA vs Al Yash — men's singles; Juliet Vergara vs Willa Aloy — ladies; Edna Forbille vs Marion Ambas — ladies; Ida Judith Minor vs Florida Gamboa — ladies.
6:30 to 8:00 pm.
National Panasonic vs Kay & Associates — men's doubles; AG&P Co. of MIA vs Al Yash — men's doubles; Kay Regency vs Farwanayah Hosp. — men's singles; Kay Regency vs AG&P Co. — men's doubles.

Friday
Basketball (Kheifan gym): 7:00-8:30 Canada Dry vs Kuwait Regency, 8:30-10:00 KPTC vs Arab Tel, 10:00-11:30 Pinoy Rest. vs Alexco, 11:30-12:30 RIC vs Wood Group Engg, 12:30-2:00 KPBC vs Kay & Associates, 2:00-3:30 Safeway vs Cape Contract, 3:30-5:00 Fisher/Adan vs Al Jahra Hosp. (women's volleyball), 5:00-6:30 Mahabuy Rest. vs AG&P Co. of MIA.
Table Tennis (Kheifan gym): 8:30 to 11:30.
Arab Tel vs Mowasat Hospital — ladies; Canada Dry vs AG&P Co. of MIA — men's 2, 3 to 5:30.
KPTC vs Canada Dry — men's; Al Ghanim Fight vs Arab Tel — men's; Chess — 8:30 am (Kheifan gym): Kabayan vs Canada Dry; RIC vs AG&P Co. of MIA; KPBC vs Arab Tel; Kirby Bldg Sys vs Al Ghanim Fight. Darts (Kheifan gym): 8:30-10:00 Alifuez vs Kabayan Rest.; 10:00-11:30 Kirby Bldg Sys vs Pinoy Rest.; 11:30-1:00 Kwi Regency vs RIC; 1:00-2:30 AG&P Co. vs Al Ghanim Fight.
Lawn tennis (Qadsia Sports Club): 5:00 to 6:00.
Juliet Vergara vs Marion Ambas — ladies; Zeni Pacina vs Ida Minor — ladies; Gulf Paper vs Al Yash — men's singles; Kwi Regency vs Farwanayah Hosp. — men's singles; EEMC vs RIC — men's singles.
6:30 to 8:00.
Sally Rieu vs Willa Aloy — ladies; Edna Forbille vs Flor Gamboa — ladies; Gulf Paper vs Al Yash — men's doubles; Kwi Regency vs Farwanayah Hosp. — men's doubles; EEMC vs RIC — men's doubles.

Biation takes lead after second leg

LAGONISSI, Greece, May 30, (AP). Italian driver Massimo Biation, in a Lancia Delta Integrale, held a slim lead today after the second leg of the four-day Acropolis Motor Rally.

Biation, the current World Championship leader, racked up 56 minutes 58 seconds in penalty points over six special stages across 78 kilometres of gravel road in the Pateras mountains west of Athens.

Finland's Juha Kankkunen, piloting the new Toyota Celica 2000, held second place with 57:39, ahead of Mikael Ericsson of Sweden, in another Lancia Delta Integrale, with 57:44.

Alain Fiorio of Italy lay fourth with 57:48, followed by Yves Loubet of France with 58:19. Both are driving Lancia Deltas. Austria's Rudolf Stohl, in an Audi Quattro, was sixth with 59:35.

Ninety-four out of 102 starters were still on the road after 456 kilometres of the 1,775-kilometre event.

But veteran driver Bjorn Waldegard of Sweden dropped out when his Toyota Celica 2000 developed front axle trouble on the second special stage.

Slaney aims for fast times at Games

SAN JOSE, Calif., May 30, (Reuters). She's healthy and the world should beware.

Mary Decker Slaney, whose illustrious career had ground to a halt because of injuries, left no doubt on Saturday after completing — and winning — her first 3,000 metres race in three years, that she is on her way back to the top.

"If things go according to schedule, I should run at least 8:25 or faster at the Olympics," said the US distance star, who was running her second race of the year after being away from the track for almost two years for the birth of her daughter and a series of leg injuries.

Only one woman has ever run faster than eight minutes, 25 seconds — world record holder Tayana Kazankina of the Soviet Union, who completed the distance in a starting 8:22.62 in 1984.

Ballesteros finishes two shots off pace

Woosnam wins PGA tourney

WENTWORTH, England, May 30, (Reuters). Britain's Ian Woosnam returned to his all-conquering 1987 form by capturing the British PGA Golf championship by two shots with a closing five-under-par 67 today.

The world's best player in 1987, when he won eight times as well as helping Europe retain the Ryder Cup, Woosnam held off Spaniard Severiano Ballesteros to snatch the first prize of £50,000 (\$92,500) for his first win of the year.

His victory ended five months of torment as he struggled to adjust to new clubs he had agreed to use this year. He missed five

But Slaney, who recorded history's second best time of 8:25.83 in her last race at 3,000 metres in 1985, figures things will change, perhaps before the gold medal is handed out at the Seoul Olympics.

Competition
"I don't think I've reached my potential athletically," said the 1973 world champion at 1,500 and 3,000 metres after winning the 3,000 at the San Jose Grand Prix event in 8:49.43 despite no real competition and very windy conditions.

"If I can stay healthy not only for this year, but for two or three consecutive years, my times can improve greatly."

"I know I can be better than before," said the confident former world champion.

"I haven't felt this good in years," said the 29-year-old of her physical conditioning.

successive halfway cuts as he battled to make the transition. "It hasn't really sunk in yet. But I'm not surprised to win. I'm more surprised that my form has come back so quickly," he said.

"It's nice to be playing well again and to be hitting the ball where I want. Now I'm looking forward to the US Open next month."

Ballesteros, the overnight leader by one shot from five players, needed an eagle three at the last hole to force a playoff, but missed the green with his second shot and could manage only a par five.

His final round of 70 left him

tied for second place with Britain's Mark James, who closed with a 68.

Woosnam's total of 274 was 14 under par. Ballesteros and James finished 12 under par. They each won £26,025 (\$48,150).

Further
Mark McNulty of Zimbabwe and Roger Chapman of Britain shared fourth place a further two shots behind. McNulty had a 71 and Chapman a 66 in the final round.

Bernhard Langer of West Germany, the defending champion and leader for the first two rounds, finished with a 73 for a total of 280.

Cauthen set for 3rd Derby winner

EPSOM, England, May 30, (Reuters). Champion jockey Steve Cauthen is poised for a third English Derby success in four years on Wednesday after being handed possibly the best spare ride of his career.

The American partners 4-1 second favourite Unfuwain, one of three horses trained by Dick Hern and one of two discarded by stable jockey Willie Carson.

Hern, still in a wheelchair after a hunting accident, has been blessed this year with a vintage selection of classic colts and Carson, 45, was faced with the tough task of which to ride.

In the end sentiment played a part when Carson plumped for the horse he bred, Minster Son.

Al Sha'alli tipped to win Kuwait's powerboat race

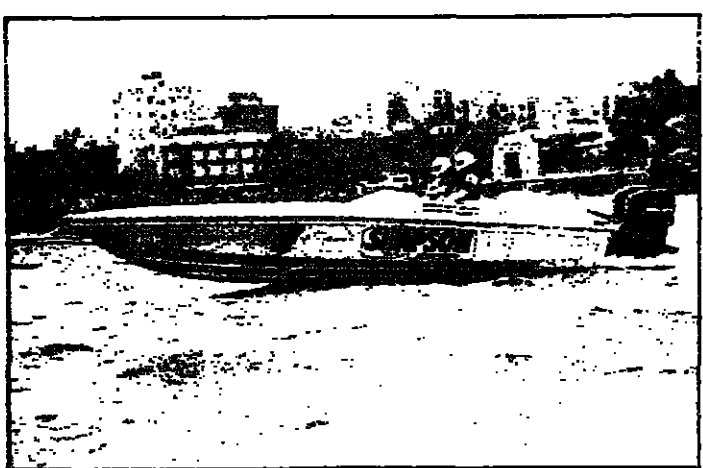
By Gail Seery

THE strongest entrants in Friday's 2nd Bi-annual Kuwait Offshore Powerboat Race, will be the Dubai entrants, according to many of the locally based drivers. Organisers expect a small race, but one with a high standard of competition.

Four competitors are from Dubai, including Abdullah Al Sha'alli, one of the emirates' top drivers, who won the first Dubai race in 1986, and came second in the 1987 event. He is tipped as a likely winner of Friday's race, with Khaled Bakhit reckoned likely to come in second.

Certain
Salem Mohammed is entering a 31ft boat, with two engines giving him 400hp apiece. This is certain to be one of the most powerful boats in the race, and a very strong contender. However, the boat weighs in at 2 tons, and may be at a disadvantage in calmer water. Ahmad Bin Juma has a 21ft boat, with a 225hp engine. Again the boat is very heavy at 1.5 tons and this could put him at a disadvantage. Both entrants have travelled from Dubai for the race. Juma said that he hoped for a good result, but was participating mainly for fun.

One local driver who is taking the race very seriously is Khalifa Al Qutami, who came second in last year's race, despite losing all



Mishal Al Jarallah (left) and Thabit Al Bania during last year's powerboat race.

power in one of his engines. He is rated as one of the strongest local contenders. He has purchased an Al Sha'alli Tigercat from Dubai, and will be driving under Pernier Mineral Water sponsorship for this race.

He explained that this type of boat would be at its best in light sea conditions, with waves around 2ft. He refused to be pressured into any prediction about the other locally based contestants in the race, explaining that each of the boats would be at its best in different sea conditions, and that he would not be able to predict which driver would have an advantage until the morning of the race. "If the sea is flat

Sheikh Basel's boat will have an advantage."

Sheikh Basel Salem Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah, whose team, Messilah Power Boats has three boats in the race, will be driving a 19ft Challenger hull with an engine he is confident will give him 90mph. He is certain that his boat is good enough to place him high up in the finishing positions.

"If it wasn't for the Dubai entrants I'd tell them to register the first prize in my name," he joked.

Al Qutami said that he would adopt a cautious approach on the race day. He would not necessarily be pushing from the start, but would instead be waiting to

see the tactics adopted by the other competitors. He felt that it would be best not to push too hard and risk mistakes or damaged engines, but to take it easy, stay in touch with the front runners, and watch for an opportunity to take the lead.

Busy

Al Qutami will be entering one of only two Kuwaiti-driven catamarans; all the rest of the local entrants will be driving monohulled craft. Mishal Al Jarallah's Cougar catamaran will be more at ease in waves of around 4ft, and local drivers say they are looking forward to seeing how it performs under race conditions.

Mohammed Karam, who won the last race, is likely to gain a good position, in his AMF Crestliner Rampage, which has 2,200hp engines. Husam Sayafa is busy preparing his Cobra hull and its 2.4 c.f.i. engines. Newcomer Abdullah Jaffar will be driving a Ski machine boat.

The race will start at 1 pm on Friday and should take about an hour. The difficulty of the race will depend largely on the size of the waves. Last year's race, and the recent Dubai powerboat race were held in very bad weather conditions, but the organisers expect conditions to be more favourable for this event.

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